

ORIGINAL
(Red)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

SUBJECT: Valley Forge Army Hospital

Date: 5/24/90

From: Lynnette Elser, SIO
Pre-Remedial Section (3HW13)

To: Hank Sokolowski, Chief
Federal Facilities Section (3HW26)

Thru: Ben Mykijewycz, Chief
Pre-Remedial Section (3HW13)

As discussed on May 21, 1990, the Pre-Remedial Section is writing this letter in order to facilitate a smooth transfer of the subject site to the Federal Facilities Section. This letter, along with the accompanying attachments, will provide the Federal Facilities Section with all the information in the Pre-Remedial Section's possession.

Attached are letters from Theodore Ryan a supervisor with Schuylkill Township, a few newspaper articles, analytical results of sampling performed for the Phoenixville Area School District, a summary sheet dated 5-10-90 and the Congressional inquiry that identified the subject site.

The following individuals are contacts for the site:

- * Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor, Schuylkill Township
home: (215) 933-1602
Township Building 933-5843
or 933-5844
- * Lisa Scheid
Evening Phoenix newspaper
(215) 933-8926
- * Lloyd Schell
U. S. Army Corp. Eng. (exfed. facs.)
FTS 504-4694
- * Dawn Ioven
Toxicologist, Site Support Section, EPA
xl309

Elser flop SVFAH. Mem

* Al Brown
Public Affairs, EPA
x6925

The Pre-Remedial Section reached an agreement with Mr. Ryan, Lisa Scheid and Lloyd Schell that the EPA would contact them if there was any new information. This eliminated their daily calls to EPA to determine the sites current development.

(b) (6) is an attorney that is considering representing an ex-student of Valley Forge Christian College. The student developed a rare form of cancer that is caused by radiation. He was told that EPA has no evidence of radiation problems at the site at this time. He may call when EPA has completed more of its investigation. He believes that the "chemicals" he read about in the newspaper may be radioactive.

The following is additional information not included in the 5-10-90 Summary sheet:

* As discussed on May 21, 1990, the Pre-Remedial Section s contractor, NUS Corporation, will complete a PA at the subject site. This will include a site visit on May 29, 1990. Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope is the project manager for this report. Feel free to call Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope for any information concerning the site or the status of the report. In order to allow NUS Corporation to conduct a site visit without the media present the Pre-Remedial Section has stated that a press release would be issued concerning the site visit after the site visit was complete. This press release would be in writing. Lisa Scheid would like the press release faxed to her. Please call her for the fax number. Lisa Cunningham of the Federal Facilities Section was notified of this agreement and told that Al Brown could assist her in preparing a press release. When the draft PA is completed it will be given to the Federal Facilities Section for review before it is finalized.

* The property that was Valley Forge General Hospital was, upon the hospitals closure, divided into 3 parts. Each part was given oversight by a federal agency. The Office of Education was given a parcel which they gave to Valley Forge Christian Academy (a college), Phoenixville Area School District (to build a school) and Community Service Providers of Exton (1 acre parcel to provide services for handicapped people.) These 3 organizations received the land providing that the land is used for educational purposes for 30 years. Any portion of the property that is not used for educational purposes will revert back to the Office of Education. The Department of the Interior, National Park Services was given an approximately 50 acre parcel of the property which is overseen by the Township of Charlestown with the contingency that the property is used for recreational

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purposes only. The Township of Charlestown leases their portion to BMX Bike Club and Phoenixville Area Soccer Club. It is believed that the Department of the Interior maintains ownership and only the governing oversight was transferred to the Township of Charlestown. The third portion is believed to be owned by GSA, and through the Department of Health and Human Services an unknown organization concerned with the homeless is to develop the property for use.

* The soccer club that leases property from the Township of Charlestown tested the soil in the soccer field and found "no high levels of toxics" based upon conversations with Lisa Scheid and NUS Corporation.

* Army Corps of Engineers will visit the site 5-24-90 to assess the chemicals on-site.

* The old bowling alley (Community Services Providers portion) is believed to have old transformers in it based on information from NUS Corporation.

* The "chemicals" in the old psychology ward consist of 2-3 twenty ounce containers of cyanide and an unknown number of drums with unknown contents. This building was boarded up when the chemicals were found. This information was provided by the Army Corps. of Engineers.

* Many of the buildings on the college property are contaminated with asbestos as indicated by NUS Corporation.

Unless we hear otherwise we will let the Federal Facilities Section take the lead on this site.

SOUTH EVERGREEN DRIVE

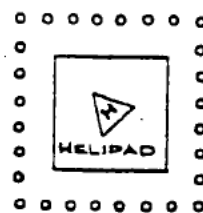
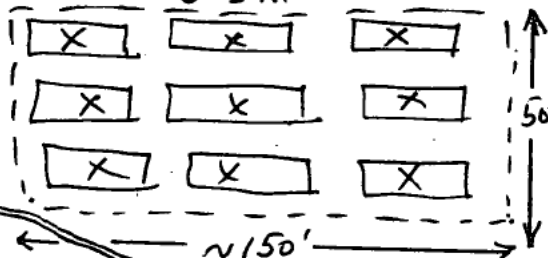
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ORIGINAL
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FENCE ON PROPERTY LINE

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J ST.



PARKING AREA

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ENGINEER
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CONTAMINATION
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TOWNSHIP
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ELECTRICAL SUB-
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BASEBALL FIELD

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T-107

CONC. PLAB

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STORAGE BING

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Valley Forge Army Hospital

5-10-90

Handwritten notes in the top right corner, possibly indicating a date or reference number.

On April 17, 1990 EPA received a Congressional Inquiry from Dick Schulze concerning this site. EPA had no information so we responded that we would perform a PA. (Hank Sokolowski and Lisa Cunningham were contacted before the Congressional Inquiry was answered and they said it wasn't a Federal site.)

Since that time EPA has obtained information from Schuylkill Township, DER, newspaper articles, Army Corps of Engineers & lawyers representing individuals potentially/allegedly impacted by the site, The facts:

- The site was an army hospital until approximately 1974.
- The hospital incinerated wastes on site & has two landfill areas (presumed to contain ash).
- The site was divided into two parcels. One part is presently Valley Forge Christian College. The other part was the intended location of a public school.
- Soil testings performed for Phoenixville Area School District revealed elevated levels of lead in composite soil samples. (Other metals are also at elevated levels.)
- The Corps of Engineers is planning an action to remove pesticide & chemicals in containers from one of the abandoned buildings.
- The Corps of Engineers has allotted \$20,000 for this site; removal, sampling & well in:

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(Kod)

- Originally the Corps of Engineers did not know why EPA was investigating an ex-federal facility. Presently, they wish to exchange information & avoid duplication of effort.

- Corps of Engineers has completed an Inventory Project Report but it did not include the 2 landfill areas.

- May 7, 1990 I met with Hank Sokolowski again & told him of the Corps of Engineers concern (2 bullets above) about EPA investigating this site. He expressed the willingness to discuss this concern with the Corps but the Corps did not think it was necessary. Hank Sokolowski said that the Pre-Remedial section should continue its investigation.

- Three newspapers have articles about the site on a fairly regular basis; one on a daily basis.

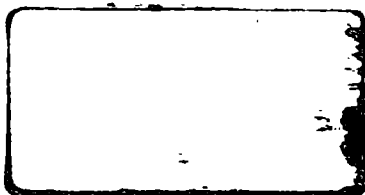
- 6 individuals that live/lived across the street developed Hodgkins Disease. One individual that attended Valley Forge Christian College developed a rare muscle disorder that is caused by radiation exposure. The media coverage focuses on the medical problems listed.

FROM <i>Dick Schulze</i>		CONTROL NO. <i>ACIL-90</i> ORIGINAL
SUBJECT AND DATE <i>Valley Forge Army Hospital - Phoenixville, PA</i>		DATE REC'D <i>4/17/90</i>
		DUE DATE <i>4/24/90</i>
REFERRED (1) <i>Kim Lonasco</i>	(2) <i>(HWD)</i>	(3)
DATE		
REPLY SENT TO <i>Kim Lonasco's In Bin, located on the 8th Floor - Extension x9072</i>		DATE RELEASED
REMARKS Please prepare response for the RA's signature; unless it's an AL Control and states the response is for the Administrator's (HQ) signature. <u>List</u> on Yellow Concurrence: 1) Name of Originator, Mail Code and Extension 2) First and Last Name of Typist PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE ANYTHING TO THE YELLOW CONG. FOLDERS!		ACKNOWLEDGED - DATE <input type="checkbox"/> NO ANSWER NEEDED <input type="checkbox"/> (Explain in remarks)

EPA Form 5180-1 (6-72)
REPLACES FWPCA FORM 72 AND
NEW-73 WHICH MAY NOT BE USED.

(Remove this copy only, do not separate remainder.)

MAIL CONTROL SCHEDULE





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III

841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

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APR 30 1990

Honorable Richard Schulze
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Schulze:

Thank you for your letter of April 12, 1990, regarding the concerns of your constituent, James R. Freeman, Esq., about the former Valley Forge Army Hospital in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

At this time, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not have any information on the former Valley Forge Army Hospital. However, since there are reports of alleged contamination, the EPA will perform a Preliminary Assessment (PA) at this facility as a first step in determining whether the site will qualify for cleanup under the Superfund Program. This PA will include a file search and a visit to the property to determine its historical uses as well as its current condition. The visit will probably occur in early Summer, 1990. Based upon the information obtained during the PA, the EPA will determine if further investigation is required.

If we can be of further assistance please contact this office again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edwin B. Erickson", is written over a horizontal line.

Edwin B. Erickson
Regional Administrator

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APR 30 1990

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House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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If we can be of further assistance please contact this office again.

Sincerely,

Edwin B. Erickson
Regional Administrator

Elsner 3HW13 - X-8333

CONCURRENCES							
SYMBOL	3HW13						
SURNAME	ELSER	Ryan	Erickson				
DATE	4/27	4/27					

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives • Washington, DC 20515

ORIGINAL
(Red)

April 12, 1990

Mr. Ted Erickson
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Region III Office
841 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Dear Ted:

Enclosed please find correspondence from one of my constituents, Mr. James R. Freeman, Esq., who contacted my district office regarding alleged contamination on the site of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. The property is currently owned by the Phoenixville Area School District.

Please investigate the facts of this situation and advise my district office in writing of your findings.

With all best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,



DICK SCHULZE
Member of Congress

DS/th

Enclosure

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

☐ 2389 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5781

☐ 10 SOUTH LEOPARD RD.
SUITE 204
PAOLI, PA 19301
800-382-5652 (TOLL FREE)
215-648-0555

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(Red)

LAW OFFICES
JAMES R. FREEMAN
606 SOUTH MAIN STREET
PHOENIXVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA 19460
(215) 935-7744
FAX (215) 935-2860

April 9, 1990

The Honorable Richard T. Schulze
10 S. Leopard Road
Suite 204
Paoli, PA 19301

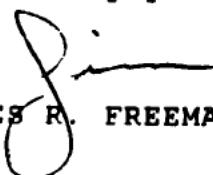
Dear Dick:

Recently I became aware of an unfortunate coincidence which exists in Schuylkill Township and I thought you would want to be apprised of it. The matter relates to property now owned by the Phoenixville Area School District, which property was formerly the site of the Valley Forge Army Hospital. According to three area newspapers, the EVENING PHOENIX, the Pottstown MERCURY and the Philadelphia INQUIRER, dangerously high levels of toxic metals have recently been discovered on the property, which toxins are possibly the result ashes from burnt x-rays which were dumped at the site while the Hospital was in operation. I am enclosing copies of the aforesaid articles for your review.

Coincidentally with the alleged contamination, a twenty-year-old young man who lived on a property adjacent to the site for eight years has recently been diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease. In dealing with this tragedy his parents have become aware of at least three others from the same neighborhood and a fourth person from another area adjacent to the former Hospital property who have been diagnosed with the same disease. I have enclosed a list which specifies the names and details of those involved.

As I am sure you can imagine, the unhappy discovery of this cluster of Hodgkin's Disease is of great concern, not only to the families directly involved, but to the community at large. Should you find it fitting to request an investigation of the alleged contamination and its possible effects on the well-being of nearby residents, it would be greatly appreciated. I thank you for any consideration you might give to this matter and should you require further information, upon being advised of its nature, I would be happy to attempt to obtain same.

Very truly yours,


JAMES R. FREEMAN

JRF/af
Enclosures, as stated
cc: (b) (6)

ORIGINAL
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EVERGREEN ACRES

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BEVAN'S ORCHARD

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(b) (6)

The Evening Phoenix

Volume 182 • Number 157 • Final Edition

Thursday, January 5, 1989

30 Cents

Residents link cancer to army hospital grounds

By KONRAD SUROWIEC
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Five area residents who have Hodgkin's disease have more than cancer in common — they are all neighbors of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital.

And that's no coincidence, they say.

Their stories about battling with the cancer convinced at least one member of the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors last night to agree to contact the federal Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., about testing soil at the former hospital site for toxins.

Hodgkin's disease is marked by inflammatory enlargement of the lymph nodes, spleen, liver and

kidneys, which mainly strikes males between the ages of 18 to 40.

Four of the local residents who either have the disease or are in remission are currently or formerly residents of South Evergreen Drive, which borders the former hospital.

Michael K. Fulmer Jr., 21, of Galich Drive in Beavans Orchard, a development that borders the Valley Forge Christian College, was first diagnosed with the disease three years ago. He underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments to remove the cancer, but it was discovered a second time.

Michael K. Fulmer Sr. said his son first underwent treatment at Lankenau Hospital, but he is now being treated at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in northeast Philadelphia.

"My son has lung damage from radiation," Fulmer said. "It (the cancer) normally relapses once."

"I found out I had the disease three months ago," said Jeff Kurtz, 20. "I want to know what's going on here."

Kurtz, an Auburn University student whose home is on North Forge Mountain Drive, lived on South Evergreen Drive from 1973 to 1981.

Frank Robinson, 44, of South Evergreen Drive, is undergoing radiation treatment for the disease.

Two other former South Evergreen Drive residents who previously underwent treatments for the disease are Bob Dyer, 35, and Dennis Andrews, 27.

A high concentration of toxic chemicals had already been discovered on a nearby portion of the

land owned by the Phoenixville Area School District, which was once the site of the hospital.

The army hospital operated there for over 34 years, treating servicemen wounded in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It closed in 1974. Most of the site, located in Charlestown and Schuylkill townships, is occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College, but a portion of the property was sold by the federal government to the school district.

District Superintendent Carolyn Troboski reported in January that the land owned by the district was contaminated with heavy metals.

Lancaster Labs, a consultant hired by the district,

(Continued on Page 2)

Cancer linked to grounds

(Continued from Page 1)

reported levels of hazardous metals, including lead and zinc, were abnormally high in a depressed 120 square foot area of a 35-acre tract bounded by Township Line and East Seven Stars roads.

The toxins came from X-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator. The ashes in the samples collected by Lancaster Labs contained the chemicals.

"We have a deep concern about the toxic waste found in the hospital," said James Kurtz, Jeff's father. "Four people came down with it in six families (in

adjacent homes on South Evergreen Drive.) What else did they bury down there?"

"The school board must have some idea something is wrong there," said Frank Robinson. "My daughter plays lacrosse out there and I don't feel real confident with that."

Supervisor G. Edward Heit told the residents to bring any other pertinent information to the board at next Wednesday's 7:30 p.m. meeting because the board lacked a quorum to conduct business last night.

"As far as I'm concerned, one of us will contact the Disease Control Center," Heit said.

Schuylkill

Disease afflicts residents

By Daniel Kaufman
Special to The Inquirer

Five men who lived near contaminated land on the old Valley Forge Army Hospital property off Charles-town Road have developed Hodgkin's disease within the last 15 years, the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors was told last week.

Three of the men, accompanied by family members, asked the supervisors Wednesday night to prod federal, state and/or county authorities to investigate a possible connection between their lymphatic cancer and toxic metals found on the land.

The Phoenixville Area School District, which leases a 33-acre piece of the property on Township Line Road near Coldstream Road from the federal government, announced it had discovered abnormally high levels of lead, zinc and silver on a depressed 6-by-20-foot section in January.

At that time, school Superintendent Carolyn Troboid said burial X-ray remains buried by the hospital before it closed in 1974 had caused the contamination.

Frank Robinson, 44, said, "I live there, I'm sick now and four of my neighbors are sick. Did they just bury it in one spot or did they spread it around?"

Hodgkin's disease, a rare but "very curable" form of lymph cancer, often strikes men between their late teens and early 40s, said Chris Holroyde, an oncologist at Phoenixville Hospital who is treating several of the men.

From 1971 until 1984, Robinson lived on South Evergreen Drive, which lies northeast of the contaminated area. Jeff Kurtz, 28, who also was diagnosed with cancer this year, lived there from 1973 until 1981. Michael Fulmer, 21, was diagnosed three years ago and still lives on Gallica Drive, located on the other side of the Army hospital.

Two other residents of South Evergreen Drive who once had the disease were not present at the meeting.

Holroyde said the cluster of cases next to the hospital was "very unusual." Because the cause of the disease is not known, however, "it is a statistical aberration which is interesting, but we can't prove anything."

The victims and their families asked the board, which had only two of its five members present, why it had never investigated whether the land was hazardous.

"Someone's dragging this out," Kurtz said.

Supervisor Edward Heit said the board had notified the county Board of Health in West Chester a few days earlier after a friend of the residents told him about the five men last month.

"It sounds as though this situation had existed for some time," Heit said Thursday.

Heit said the board would postpone the meeting until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday when there would be a quorum.

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Toxic metals reported at school land

By ERIC JANZUELLI
Evening Phoenix Staff

PHOENIXVILLE — Land owned by the Phoenixville School District located at the site of the former Valley Forge General Hospital is contaminated with toxic metals, according to Phoenixville School Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski.

Trohoski told the Phoenixville Area Board of School Directors this week that Lancaster Labs reported levels of hazardous metals are "anomalously high" in a depressed 6-by-20-foot area of a 35-acre tract of land bounded by Seven Stars and Township Line roads.

William Leggieri, general manager of the Perkiomen Valley Twilight Baseball League's Norristown A's, said last week he wants to pioneer a semipro baseball team in Phoenixville, and one of the sites under consideration is the one suspected of being contaminated.

Fielding a team will not be a problem, Leggieri said, but finding a facility could be.

"We told the (people from) the semipro team to wait until we got the tests back" on the site, said Trohoski Thursday night. "We aren't sure of the exact condition."

The Lancaster Labs reported there was evidence of a lead concentration of 452 milligrams per kilogram and a zinc concentration of 320 mpk. The cost to clean up the site would be "very high," according to Trohoski.

Trohoski said X-ray remains caused the toxins.

"X-rays were burned by the incinerator (located on the site) and it was the ashes that were in the samples," she said. "The ashes contained silver nitrate and other chemicals."

Trohoski said there were no regulations for waste disposal when the ashes were burned. "We're living with the problems of the past," she said. "It was

Toxic metals reported

(Continued from Page 1)

Board President Vincent J. O'Grady said he was concerned over the district's liability.

"Whoever owns the land is liable for it and its (potential) cleanup," said Solicitor Elliott Goldberg.

The school district acquired the land from the federal government with the stipulation to "use it or lose it," said Trohoski. She said the board could "give back the parts of land that are hazardous."

Goldberg said that would be legal, as long as the plots are well-defined.

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The Mercury

VOL. 60 NO. 90
POTTSTOWN, PA. 19464
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1990

A Pulitzer Prize-Winner

Toxins found on school

By DEBRA NOELL
Mercury Staff Writer

PHOENIXVILLE — Dangerously high levels of lead, zinc and silver have been found in the soil on a section of land in Schuylkill Township where the Phoenixville Area School District had planned to build an elementary school.

The 20-by-6-foot contaminated parcel is part of a 35-acre tract the district acquired

from the federal government when the Valley Forge Military Hospital closed at the site in 1978. Federal statutes allow local government bodies to lay claim to neglected federal land in their districts.

The school board claimed two separate tracts from the hospital property. The first lot, located near Evergreen Acres on Township Line Road, hasn't been found to be contaminated, according to Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski. Field hockey and lacrosse playing fields are located on the

land.

But the second section, located on Township Line Road near Coldstream Road, was found to have abnormally high levels of toxic materials in the soil, according to test results from Lancaster Laboratories.

A district maintenance building, bus lot and public softball field are located adjacent to the contaminated section, officials said. The board agreed Thursday night to test the soil near the softball field and maintenance building to determine if the

Mercury

ing Newspaper

35 CENTS
44 PAGES
5 SECTIONS

district land

rest of the lot has been contaminated.

The test results will help the board determine how much of the land to return to the federal government.

"We don't want it. It's damaged goods," board member Anthony Trezza said of the property.

The board also decided Thursday to scrap any plans for building an elementary school on the land. The long-range district plan included building on the lot when

burgeoning student population demanded a new school.

Officials from the board's architectural firm, Huth Associates of Lancaster, said the contamination would cause "health and safety problems to humans."

The contaminated area aroused suspicions when rectangular areas near the site of a former incinerator began to sink, Trohoski said. "We've been watching the area because it's strange that it would sink

(See TOXINS FOUND on 5)

School land contaminated

District planned to build elementary school at site

(TOXINS FOUND from 1)

in particular shapes," she added.

Lead, silver and zinc are metallic elements formerly used in photographic paper and X-rays. Officials believe X-ray waste from the hospital was buried on the land.

"The assumption is X-rays were burned in the incinerator and the ash was dumped in rectangular areas," Trohoski said.

The extent of contamination couldn't be immediately determined. "Whether the lead has

migrated in the soil, we don't know," Trohoski said.

District officials are questioning whether a nearby stream could also be tainted.

"I'm sure I'm raising concerns of the public, too," Trohoski said.

The school board has agreed to notify borough and township officials along with the Environmental Protection Agency about its findings.

APR 30 1990

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House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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If we can be of further assistance please contact this office again.

Sincerely,

Edwin B. Erickson
Regional Administrator

Elsner 3HW13 - X-8333

CONCURRENCES							
SYMBOL	3HW13						
SURNAME	ELSER	Ryan	Erickson				
DATE	4/27	4/27					

Schuylkill

Disease afflicts residents

By Daniel Kaufman
Special to The Inquirer

Five men who lived near contaminated land on the old Valley Forge Army Hospital property off Charles-town Road have developed Hodgkin's disease within the last 15 years; the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors was told last week.

Three of the men, accompanied by family members, asked the supervisors Wednesday night to prod federal, state and/or county authorities to investigate a possible connection between their lymphatic cancer and toxic metals found on the land.

The Phoenixville Area School District, which leases a 35-acre piece of the property on Township Line Road near Coldstream Road from the federal government, announced it had discovered abnormally high levels of lead, zinc and silver on a depressed 6-by-20-foot section in January.

At that time, school Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski said burnt X-ray remains buried by the hospital before it closed in 1974 had caused the contamination.

Frank Robinson, 44, said, "I live there, I'm sick now and four of my neighbors are sick. Did they just bury it in one spot or did they spread it around?"

Hodgkin's disease, a rare but "very curable" form of lymph cancer, often strikes men between their late teens and early 40s, said Chris Holroyde, an oncologist at Phoenixville Hospital who is treating several of the men.

From 1971 until 1984, Robinson lived on South Evergreen Drive, which lies northeast of the contaminated area. Jeff Kurtz, 20, who also was diagnosed with cancer this year, lived there from 1973 until 1981. Michael Fulmer, 21, was diagnosed three years ago and still lives on Galicia Drive, located on the other side of the Army hospital.

Two other residents of South Evergreen Drive who once had the disease were not present at the meeting.

Holroyde said the cluster of cases next to the hospital was "very unusual." Because the cause of the disease is not known, however, "it is a statistical aberration which is interesting, but we can't prove anything."

The victims and their families asked the board, which had only two of its five members present, why it had never investigated whether the land was hazardous.

"Someone's dragging their feet," Kurtz said.

Supervisor Edward Helt said the board had notified the county Board of Health in West Chester a few days earlier after a friend of the residents told him about the five men last month.

"It sounds as though this situation had existed for some time," Helt said Thursday.

Helt said the board would postpone the meeting until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday when there should be a quorum.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

3 ill residents blame toxins at old hospital

Schuylkill officials to discuss claims

4-6-90
By VERONICA PRATT
(Local News Correspondent)

SCHUYLKILL — Supervisors plan to discuss the possibility that hazardous toxins discovered at the Valley Forge Hospital might have caused residents to suffer from Hodgkins disease.

Jeff Lutz, Frank Robinson and Mike Fulmer asked the supervisors Wednesday what the township was doing about the health problem.

All three suffer from Hodgkins disease. Lutz was diagnosed in December, Robinson was just diagnosed and Fulmer, who has it for a second time, was diagnosed last summer.

Kurtz had a list of five persons who have contracted the disease and all of them lived within a mile of each other near the hospital. Supervisor G. Edward Heit said he had

talked with an area doctor who said all of the cases couldn't have happened without something in common.

Since not enough supervisors were present for a formal meeting, Heit asked everyone to return on April 11.

The three suffering from the disease said they asked supervisors to investigate the situation in January when reports of high toxic levels in that area were made public.

The reports said high levels of lead, zinc and silver had been found in the soil of the 35-acre tract which was formerly the Valley Forge Hospital.

Lutz, 20, said although his family moved from the area, he remembers playing on the hospital grounds as a youngster, crawling under the fence to get in.

Fulmer's father said they just want answers. They'd like the supervisors to contact the Center for Disease Control to try to get someone to do tests on the land, he said.

Fulmer, 22, is going to Fox Chase Cancer Center for treatment. He has suffered heart and lung damage as a result of the heavy doses of radiation and chemotherapy treatments he has received.

Residents link cancer to army hospital grounds

ORIGINAL
(Red)

By KONRAD SUROWIEC
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Five area residents who have Hodgkin's disease have more than cancer in common — they are all neighbors of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital.

And that's no coincidence, they say.

Their stories about battling with the cancer convinced at least one member of the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors last night to agree to contact the federal Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., about testing soil at the former hospital site for toxins.

Hodgkin's disease is marked by inflammatory enlargement of the lymph nodes, spleen, liver and

kidneys, which mainly strikes males between the ages of 18 to 40.

Four of the local residents who either have the disease or are in remission are current or former residents of South Evergreen Drive, which borders the former hospital.

Michael K. Fulmer Jr., 21, of Galicia Drive in Bevans Orchard, a development that borders the Valley Forge Christian College, was first diagnosed with the disease three years ago. He underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments to remove the cancer, but it was discovered a second time.

Michael K. Fulmer Sr. said his son first underwent treatment at Lankenau Hospital, but he's now being treated at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in northeast Philadelphia.

"My son has lung damage from radiation," Fulmer said. "It (the cancer) normally relapses once."

"I found out I had the disease three months ago," said Jeff Kurtz, 20. "I want to know what's going on here."

Kurtz, an Auburn University student whose home is on North Forge Mountain Drive, lived on South Evergreen Drive from 1973 to 1981.

Frank Robinson, 44, of South Evergreen Drive, is undergoing radiation treatment for the disease. Two other former South Evergreen Drive residents who previously underwent treatments for the disease are Bob Dyer, 35, and Dennis Andrews, 27.

A high concentration of toxic chemicals has already been discovered on a nearby portion of the

land owned by the Phoenixville Area School District, which was once the site of the hospital.

The army hospital operated there for over 30 years, treating servicemen wounded in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It closed in 1974. Most of the site, located in Charlestown and Schuylkill townships, is occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College, but a portion of the property was sold by the federal government to the school district.

District Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski reported in January that the land owned by the district was contaminated with heavy metals.

Lancaster Labs, a consultant hired by the district,

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

reported levels of hazardous metals, including lead and zinc, were abnormally high in a depressed 120 square-foot area of a 35-acre tract bounded by Township Line and East Seven Stars roads.

The toxins came from X-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator. The ashes in the samples collected by Lancaster Labs contained the chemicals.

"We have a deep concern about the toxic waste found in the hospital," said James Kurtz, Jeff's father. "Four people came down with it in six families (in

adjacent homes on South Evergreen Drive.) What else did they bury down there?"

"The school board must have some idea something is wrong there," said Frank Robinson. "My daughter plays lacrosse out there and I don't feel real confident with that."

Supervisor G. Edward Heit told the residents to bring any other pertinent information to the board at next Wednesday's 7:30 p.m. meeting because the board lacked a quorum to conduct business last night.

"As far as I'm concerned, one of us will contact the Disease Control Center," Heit said.

CHESTER COUNTY

Schuylkill Township

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ORIGINAL
(Red)

April 3, 1990

Dr. John Maher, Director
Chester County Health Department
326 North Walnut Street
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

Subject: Report of Hodgkins Disease - Schuylkill Township

Dear Dr. Maher:

Confirming our telephone conversation this date, I wish to bring the following information to your attention.

A resident of Schuylkill Township, (b) (6) of (b) (6) advised our township clerk on 29 March, 1990, that there have been several cases of Hodgkins Disease occurring, over several years, in the same general location (Evergreen Acres) within Schuylkill Township, Chester County. (b) (6) requested that some action be taken by township officials. A copy of the memo prepared by our Township Clerk, documenting (b) (6) request, is attached.

The memo refers to a (b) (6)

Although I cannot say there is any connection to the subject of concern, at our March 1990 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, a township resident, (b) (6) (b) (6), publicly stated that there have been reports of contamination of the grounds at the site of the former Valley Forge General Hospital. The site is now occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College and is adjacent to the area known as Evergreen Acres.

There is genuine concern on the part of several residents of Evergreen Acres that some potentially hazardous health condition exists that may be responsible for the cases of Hodgkins Disease that have been reported.

The Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township wishes to officially notify you, Dr. Maher, of the situation and to request your immediate attention to the matter. I will appreciate your prompt acknowledgement of this letter and your follow-up plans.

Dr. John Maher, Director
Chester County Health Department
326 North Walnut Street
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380


April 3, 1990

Page 2

We shall await hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor

Attachment: Memo

Copies to: Board of Supervisors
Mrs. Dorothy Guerra
Dr. Joseph Weinstock
Mrs. James Kurtz

**SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
801 Valley Park Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460**

Ms. Lynette Elser - 3HW13
Site Investigation Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

2 May 1990


Subject: Valley Forge General Hospital contamination

Dear Ms. Elser,

Confirming our telephone conversation this morning I have enclosed some press clippings, memoranda, letters, map, and a complete copy of the laboratory report commissioned by the Phoenixville Area School District.

As I stated, there are now six diagnosed cases of Hodgkins disease clustered in the area immediately adjacent to the contamination site. The residents of the area and the township are extremely concerned about the apparent health risks. Any information about the status of the investigation that I can obtain will be passed along immediately.

As the designated "point man" for the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors in this emergency, I want to maintain a continuing contact with you for prompt exchange of information no matter how minimal it may seem. Our residents are our first concern and deserve to be kept informed as the investigation continues. Your offer to assist in this task is greatly appreciated. I may be reached at (b) (6) or at the Township building at 933-5843 or 5844. Thanks again.


Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor
Schuylkill Township

Enclosures:

APR 10 1990

CHESTER COUNTY

Paul R.
Schuylkill Township

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 9, 1990

Mr. Joseph Feola, Manager
Bureau of Waste Management
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources
1875 New Hope Street
Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401

SUBJECT: Ground Contamination in Schuylkill Township

Dear Mr. Feola:

At the direction of the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township, I wish to bring to your specific personal attention, a matter of serious concern to the Board and the residents of the township.

The Phoenixville Area School District owns about 35 acres of ground in an area formerly used by the Valley Forge General Hospital. The premises are now occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College. According to published news reports (copy enclosed) an area of about 120 square feet was found to contain abnormally high levels of hazardous materials. The testing was performed by Lancaster Labs at the request of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carolyn Trohoski.

On March 29, 1990, the township authorities were notified that there have been several cases of Hodgkins Disease occurring in a residential area adjacent to the grounds. Our township clerk documented the information given by (b) (6) at once. As a result of this report, I contacted the Chester County Board of Health on April 2, 1990. The following day, April 3, 1990, I spoke to Dr. John Maher, Director of the Health Department, with the information and am awaiting a formal response as to the role of his organization in this matter.

Continuing, at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors on April 4, 1990, there appeared a group of about twenty residents of the residential area (b) (6) adjacent to the old hospital grounds. The group voiced their concern that there is a connection between the contamination and the numerous reported cases of Hodgkins Disease.

Specifically, you are formally requested to advise the Board of Supervisors as to how the Bureau of Waste Management of DER will proceed.

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Joseph Feola, Manager
Bureau of Waste Management
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources
1875 New Hope Street
Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401

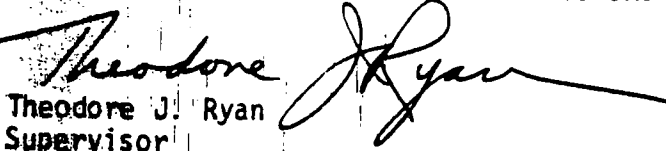
April 9, 1990

Page 2

Enclosed are copies of news reports and the documentation of the original notification of the matter. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request for assistance.

Very truly yours,

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor

TJR:mhr

Enclosures

Copies to Board of Supervisors
Dr. Carolyn Trohoski, PASD Superintendent

**SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
801 Valley Park Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460

ORIGINAL
(Red)

Ms. Lynette Elser - 3HW13
Site Investigation Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

2 May 1990


Subject: Valley Forge General Hospital contamination

Dear Ms. Elser,

Confirming our telephone conversation this morning I have enclosed some press clippings, memoranda, letters, map, and a complete copy of the laboratory report commissioned by the Phoenixville Area School District.

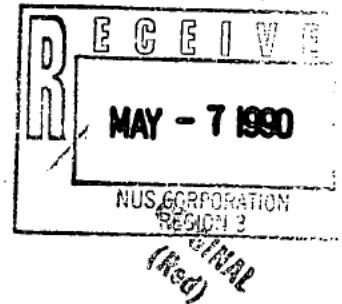
As I stated, there are now six diagnosed cases of Hodgkins disease clustered in the area immediately adjacent to the contamination site. The residents of the area and the township are extremely concerned about the apparent health risks. Any information about the status of the investigation that I can obtain will be passed along immediately.

As the designated "point man" for the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors in this emergency, I want to maintain a continuing contact with you for prompt exchange of information no matter how minimal it may seem. Our residents are our first concern and deserve to be kept informed as the investigation continues. Your offer to assist in this task is greatly appreciated. I may be reached at (b) (6) [REDACTED] or at the Township building at 933-5843 or 5844. Thanks again.


Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor
Schuylkill Township

Enclosures:

*Called Ted
5/17/90
concerning
site visit tentatively
set for May 29th*



2 May 1990

Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope

NUS Corporation
999 West Valley Road
Wayne, PA 19087

Subject: Site assessment - Valley Forge General Hospital

Dear Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope,

Enclosed is a copy of the laboratory report prepared for the Phoenixville Area School District by Lancaster Laboratories. Also enclosed are copies of press accounts of the situation that might be of some help to you.

I will be glad to cooperate with you in any way as you proceed with the task as defined by the EPA. My principal concern is that the residents of the area are kept up-to-date on any and all developments as they occur. At the appropriate time I will appreciate any input you will be able to provide.

I may be reached at the Schuylkill Township Municipal Building at 933-8543 or 8544. My (b) (6)

Enclosures:

Theodore J. Ryan
Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor
Schuylkill Township

Dr. S. S. S. S. S.
L. H. P. H. 2/50

May 7, 1990

ORIGINAL
(Red)

I met with Henry Sakalowski (597-9809) to discuss Valley Forge Army Hospital site, I told him about the Army Corps of Engineers involvement & their concern that it was a federal site & EPA may be violating an inter agency agreement by doing a PA. He said that he believed there was an agreement for ex-fed. facs., Pre-Remedial could continue its investigation & Corps of Eng. could call him to discuss any differences of opinion concerning the inter agency agreement.

I called Lloyd Idell (202-504-4694) of Corps. & left a message on his answering machine.

CHESTER COUNTY

Schuylkill Township

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

13 April 1990

ORIGINAL
(Red)

Mr. Harold Yates
Public Affairs Director
Environmental Protection Agency
1916 Welsh Road
Philadelphia, Pa.

Subject: Contamination at Valley Forge General Hospital site

Dear Mr. Yates,

This letter is to formally notify the Environmental Protection Agency of laboratory-verified contamination of a portion of the grounds at the site of the former Valley Forge General Hospital. The area is located within the borders of Schuylkill Township, Chester County. I have been designated by the chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Dr. Norman Vutz, to coordinate the investigative efforts of various governmental agencies presently concerned with this matter, and to assist you and EPA personnel as much as possible.

My primary objective is to establish a communication link with you or your designate so that updated information on the current status of any investigative and/or corrective action is promptly made known to the residents of our community.

A summary of information and a time line follows:

From 1943 to 1974, the federal government operated the Valley Forge General Hospital on a tract of land located in Schuylkill township, Chester County. In the late 1970s, the General Services Administration, by restrictive deed, turned part of the property over to the Valley Forge Christian College for educational purposes. About 35 acres was also turned over to the Phoenixville Area School District for possible later use as a site for a school.

In the fall of 1988, a school district employee noted a number of "depressions" each measuring approximately 6 x 30 feet in an area of the property adjacent to an old incinerator that had been used for disposal of unidentified hospital waste matter. The school authorities notified the U. S. Department of Education who in turn contacted the Army Corps of Engineers to investigate.

Lacking a response from the federal agency, the school district, in October 1989, authorized an independent laboratory to perform test borings of the soil in the depressed areas, and to analyze their findings. (A complete copy of the laboratory report is enclosed for your use). The results were delivered to the school district in January 1990 but the township was not notified of the test results or their implications.

On March 29, 1990, a resident came to the township offices and reported five cases of Hodgkins disease in the residential area adjacent to the area of contaminated soil. His oral report was transcribed to memo form and each of the supervisors was keyed for a copy. As one of the memo recipients, I advised the other board members I would contact the county health department. This contact was made by phone and confirming letter on 3 April. The director of the county health department, John Maher, M. D., was apprised of the contamination problem and the concern that there may be a link to the cases of reported Hodgkins disease.


On April 4, 1990, about 25 residents of the area near the contamination site (b) (6) attended the monthly board meeting, expressed their fears and wanted to know what was being done by the township about the situation. A second township meeting was scheduled for April 11, 1990 by which time some answers might be provided.

On April 9, 1990 the Pennsylvania State Department of Environmental Resources-Bureau of Waste Management, was contacted and their cooperation was assured. Also on April 9, 1990 I spoke with Dr. Carolyn Trohoski, Superintendent of Schools who agreed to provide the township with a copy of the laboratory report.

On April 11, 1990 the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township met with about 130 residents of the township. Also attending the meeting and addressing the group were Dr. John P. Maher, Director, Chester County Health Department and Hon. Peter Vroon, Pa. State Representative-157th District.

At the meeting, the Board of Supervisors promised the residents that all steps will be taken to assure a complete and definitive investigation. As noted above, the notification of appropriate government agencies at the county and state level has been completed. Since the federal government actually owns the land in question, it follows that the federal Environmental Protection Agency also be notified.

I will appreciate your prompt acknowledgement of this request for assistance, Mr. Yates, and trust that, with your cooperation and that of the other agencies involved, the fears of the residents of our township may be put to rest.


Theodore J. Ryan
Supervisor
Schuylkill Township

Copy: Board of Supervisors
Dr. John Maher, CCHD
Mr. Joseph Feola, DBR
Hon. Peter Vroon
John Harvey, Evening Phoenix
Dr. Carolyn Trohoski, PASD

ORIGINAL
(Red)

HUTH
ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

1650 MANHEIM PIKE, P.O. BOX 3012, LANCASTER, PA 17604-3012
(717) 569-7021

RECEIVED

APR 10 1990

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP

ORIGINAL
(Red)

December 20, 1989

Dr. Carol Trohoski,
Superintendent
Phoenixville Area School District
1120 South Gay Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

COPY

Dear Dr. Trohoski:

Huth Architectural Services, Inc. (Huth) conducted a site assessment for the Phoenixville School District on October 23, 1989, at the Valley Forge Military Hospital (Figure 1). The site was the former location of the hospital incinerator. Recently, depressions have appeared on the property in areas in which hospital waste was buried. The Phoenixville School District was interested in determining whether trash was buried on the property of interest, and whether the presence of any buried trash was potentially harmful. They also wanted to know whether the presence of this material should prevent them from exercising their legal options on the property.

SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

As part of this assessment, Huth collected four composite soil samples from six test borings at the site. The soil samples were collected by advancing a hollow stem auger to a depth of five feet, then driving a split spool to refusal. The split spoon sampler was decontaminated prior to the start of sampling and between each test boring by washing in a mixture of de-ionized water andalconox, and rinsing in de-ionized water.

The area around the boring was monitored with an OVA (Organic Vapor Analyzer) for volatile organic vapors in the ambient air and with a radiation meter for gamma radiation detection. During the sampling, neither the OVA nor the radiation detector recorded ambient air readings above established background.

Six borings were installed in the test area; the locations of the borings are shown on Figure 2 and the boring logs are shown in Appendix A. All of the borings were taken to a depth in excess of 5.0 feet or to refusal. With the exception of Boring #3.0, all test borings encountered ash, broken glass and ceramic, and other garbage. Bedrock or competent rock is found at depths ranging from 6.5 feet to 12 feet across the site.

Dr. Carol Trohoski
Phoenixville Area
School District

- 2 -

December 21, 1989

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYTICAL RESULTS

Samples were composited in the field and preserved in an appropriate decontaminated container. Grab sampling methodology was used to collect the sample. A chain of custody was prepared and the samples were shipped to Lancaster Laboratories for analysis.

The samples were analyzed for the following compounds:

- o Priority Pollutant Metals
- o Percent Oil
- o Total Cyanide
- o Phenols
- o Total Organic Halogens
- o Sulfide and Cyanide Reactivity
- o Corrosivity
- o pH
- o Total and Volatile Residue
- o BTU/Pound
- o Ignitability
- o Percent Moisture
- o ASTM Method 3987-85 Leachate Analysis

The analytical results are presented in Appendix B.

The analytical results received for oven dried samples (reported as Dry Weight Basis) can be evaluated in two ways. The concentrations of metals can be compared to typical concentrations of those metals in soils or shale, which is the rock type underlying the site (Table 1). As a generalization, concentrations of copper, lead, molybdenum, mercury, silver, and zinc exceeded typical concentrations of these metals in both soil and shale. Of these, only the concentrations of lead are anomalously high; these could be potentially dangerous.

A second method of evaluation of the analytical data involves a statistical approach which approximates the EP toxicity test, an analytical method used to determine the toxicity of leachate emanating from a test soil or solid. The EP toxicity test can be used to estimate what constituents are most prone to migrating into the groundwater by percolation. The dry weight average concentration reported in the chemical analysis is divided by 20 and compared to the established EP toxicity threshold values for these concentrations. Based on this approximation (Table 2), the only constituent of concern found in the composited samples is lead.

Dr. Carol Trohoski
Phoenixville Area
School District

- 3 -

December 21, 1989

ORIGINAL
(Red)

CONCLUSIONS

The concentration of lead found in these soils is anomalously high. Inorganic lead is of concern because it can become mobile under very weak acid solutions. The concentration of lead found in the soil could pose a problem to humans both by dermal contact and by ingestion. Because this property will be used for an elementary school, better quantification of the site soils should be done before this site is considered acceptable. Children are more susceptible to lead's toxic and chronic effects than are adults. Based on the limited data available to us, the anomalous concentrations of lead may exceed established health and safety criteria for exposure to lead. Huth Architectural Services would have serious trouble in recommending the site without further characterization and detailed chemical analysis.

Sincerely,

Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope



AJP:NWM:g1m

ORIGINAL
(Red)

MEETING ATTENDEES
April 11, 1990

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE MOVED IN
------	---------	---------------

(b) (6)

Copies to all supervisors
2 copies sent to (b) (6) 4-14-90

MEETING ATTENDEES
April 11, 1990

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE MOVED IN
------	---------	---------------

(b) (6)

Copies to all supervisors
2 copies sent to (b) (6) 4-14-90

APR 10 1990

M E M O

RECEIVED
MAR 29 1990

Gentlemen:

(b) (6) brought in some information that he asked be forwarded to you for possible investigation. He said (b) (6) (b) (6) has been doing some research on individuals who either are, or were, living in one section of (b) (6) adjacent to the former Valley Forge General Hospital. These families have been experiencing Hodgkins Disease in their children and feel there is a link to possible contaminants from the old hospital site.

The following is a list of individuals and their addresses who have been diagnosed as having Hodgkins Disease:

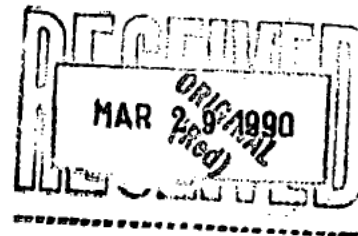
(b) (6)

According to (b) (6) all have the same type of Hodgkins Cancer. All lived on the same street (b) (6), except (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) is trying to contact present, as well as former, neighbors to see if the problem is even more wide-spread. She will keep us informed.

MHR.

M E M O



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MHR.

This is first notification to the township about the Hodgkins disease situation.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

December 20, 1989

Dr. Carol Trohoski,
Superintendent
Phoenixville Area School District
1120 South Gay Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

COPY

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ORIGINAL
(Red)

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The analytical results are presented in Appendix B.

The analytical results received for oven dried samples (reported as Dry Weight Basis) can be evaluated in two ways. The concentrations of metals can be compared to typical concentrations of those metals in soils or shale, which is the rock type underlying the site (Table 1). As a generalization, concentrations of copper, lead, molybdenum, mercury, silver, and zinc exceeded typical concentrations of these metals in both soil and shale. Of these, only the concentrations of lead are anomalously high; these could be potentially dangerous.

A second method of evaluation of the analytical data involves a statistical approach which approximates the EP toxicity test, an analytical method used to determine the toxicity of leachate emanating from a test soil or solid. The EP toxicity test can be used to estimate what constituents are most prone to migrating into the groundwater by percolation. The dry weight average concentration reported in the chemical analysis is divided by 20 and compared to the established EP toxicity threshold values for these concentrations. Based on this approximation (Table 2), the only constituent of concern found in the composited samples is lead.

Dr. Carol Trohoski
Phoenixville Area
School District

- 3 -

December 21, 1989

ORIGINAL
(Red)

CONCLUSIONS

The concentration of lead found in these soils is anomalously high. Inorganic lead is of concern because it can become mobile under very weak acid solutions. The concentration of lead found in the soil could pose a problem to humans both by dermal contact and by ingestion. Because this property will be used for an elementary school, better quantification of the site soils should be done before this site is considered acceptable. Children are more susceptible to lead's toxic and chronic effects than are adults. Based on the limited data available to us, the anomalous concentrations of lead may exceed established health and safety criteria for exposure to lead. Huth Architectural Services would have serious trouble in recommending the site without further characterization and detailed chemical analysis.

Sincerely,

Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope



AJP:NWM:g1m

PSC ENGINEERS & CONSULTANTS, INC.	PROJECT <i>Phoenixville School Dis.</i>	SUBJECT	PAGE 1
	ORIGINATOR	PROJECT NO. <i>1-89-04110</i>	OF
	CHECKED	DATE	1

CALCULATION

Preliminary Diagram
ORIGINAL
(Red)

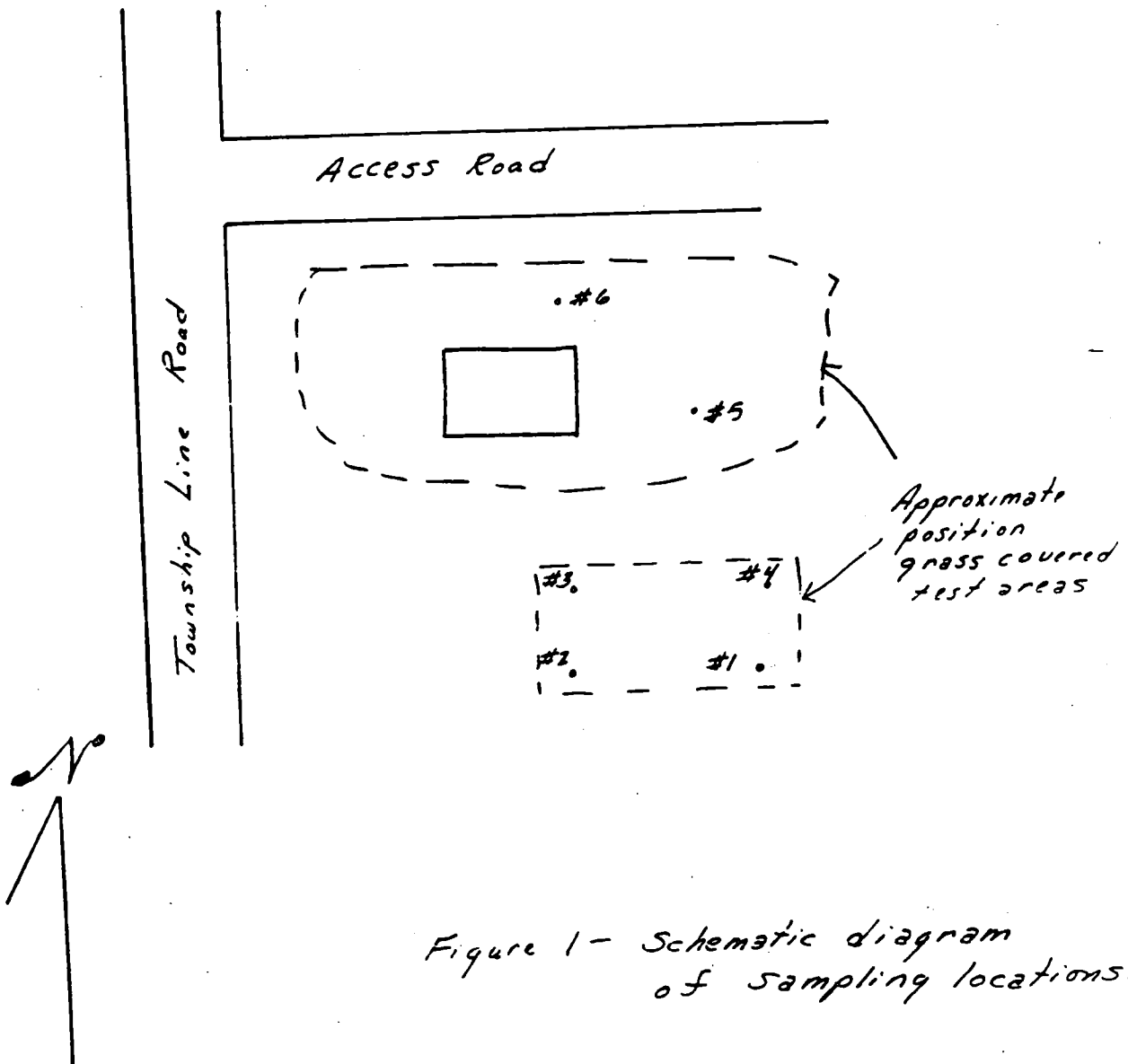


Figure 1 - Schematic diagram
of sampling locations.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

APPENDIX A

BORING LOGS

PROJECT: <u>Phoenixville School District</u>	LOCATION:
JOB NO: <u>1-89-04110</u>	ELEVATION:
DATE: <u>10/23/89</u>	WATER TABLE: <u>unknown</u>
BORING NO.: <u>#1</u>	WEATHER: <u>Sunny, mild</u>
RECORD BY: <u>[Redacted]</u>	
DRILL TYPE/CONTRACTOR: <u>Hollowstem Auger/splitspoon</u>	

	SAMPLE NO.	TYPE TEST	DEPTH (ft)		NO. OF BLOWS OR OVA (ppm)	DESCRIPTION	WELL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
			From	To			
5			0	5	NO	Auger to 5'. Purplish brown clay with glass, burnt material no radiation	
			5	7	NO	Ash with large pieces of glass, no radiation	
			7	10	NO	Ash, very wet, open void from 8 to 10'	
10			10	12	NO	no radiation	
					100 blows	Clay, Ash, saprolitic red shale	
						Refusal at 12'.	
						Total depth 12'	

REMARKS:

	SAMPLE NO.	TYPE TEST	DEPTH (ft)		NO. OF BLOWS OR OVA (ppm)	DESCRIPTION	WELL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
			From	To			
			0	5	0	Silty sand and clay, glass, plastic no radiation. Auger/split spoon	
5			5	6.5	0	sand and gravel	
10			6.5	7.0	0	saprolitic shale and silt Total depth 7.0'	

REMARKS:

PROJECT: <u>Phoenixville School District</u>	LOCATION: <u> </u>
JOB NO: <u>1-89-04110</u>	ELEVATION: <u> </u>
DATE: <u>10/23/89</u>	WATER TABLE: <u>unknown</u>
BORING NO.: <u>#3</u>	WEATHER: <u>sunny/mild</u>
RECORD BY: <u>Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope</u>	
DRILL TYPE/CONTRACTOR: <u>Hollow stem auger</u>	

	SAMPLE NO.	TYPE TEST	DEPTH (ft)		NO. OF BLOWS OR OVA (ppm)	DESCRIPTION	WELL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
			From	To			
5 10			0	6.5	0	Auger / Split spoon. Red silty loam Hard greenish fill material and gray sandstone at 6.5' no radiation Total depth 6.5'	

REMARKS: _____

PROJECT: Phoenixville School DistrictJOB NO: 1-89-04110

LOCATION:

DATE: 10/23/89BORING NO.: #5RECORD BY: Not Responsive Due to Revised ScopeDRILL TYPE/CONTRACTOR: Hollow stem auger

ELEVATION:

WATER TABLE: unknownWEATHER: sunny/mildORIGINAL
(Reg)

	SAMPLE NO.	TYPE TEST	DEPTH (ft)		NO. OF BLOWS OR OVA (ppm)	DESCRIPTION	WELL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
			From	To			
5			0	5	0	Auger/split spoon - No radiation Brown loamy soil, black ash and garbage fragments, porcelain, metal scraps Hit metal obstruction which twisted around auger bit, glass and ceramic fragments. NO RADIATION No RADIATION, void space water at 7-8! Total depth 11 feet	
10			5	8	0		
15			8	11	0		

REMARKS:

PROJECT: <u>Phoenixville School District</u>	LOCATION: <u>1</u>
JOB NO: <u>1-89-04110</u>	ELEVATION: <u>ORIGINAL (Red)</u>
DATE: <u>10/23/89</u>	WATER TABLE: <u>unknown</u>
BORING NO.: <u>#6</u>	WEATHER: <u>Sunny/mild</u>
RECORD BY: <u>Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope</u>	
DRILL TYPE/CONTRACTOR: <u>Hollow stem auger</u>	

SAMPLE NO.	TYPE TEST	DEPTH (ft)		NO. OF BLOWS OR OVA (ppm)	DESCRIPTION	WELL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
		From	To			
		0	5	0	Muger and split spoon sampler No RADIATION. Red clay and silt, no fill material or garbage	
		5	8	0	Voids and fill material, granular sand. Trash, glass and other similar garbage No radiation. Total depth 8 ft.	

REMARKS: _____

ORIGINAL
(Red)

APPENDIX B
ANALYTICAL RESULTS

DATE: _____

JOB NO.: _____

CLIENT/PROJECT: _____

HUTH

ASSOCIATES

ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

COMPUTED BY: _____

CHECKED BY: _____

SHT. _____ OF _____

*Analyte concentrations in test
soils above expected concentrations*

Sample	Analyte	Dry Weight Basis Concentration	Average Concentration of Gravel in Soil	Average Concentration of Gravel in Soil
#1 + 2 Composite	Lead	56.4 mg/kg	2.6 mg/kg	2-200 mg/kg
	Molybdenum	<10 mg/kg	3.0 mg/kg	2.0 mg/kg
	Silver	4.0 mg/kg	0.05 mg/kg	0.1 mg/kg
	Zinc	400 mg/kg	100 mg/kg	10-300 mg/kg
#3 + 4 Composite	Lead	426 mg/kg	20 mg/kg	2-200 mg/kg
	Silver	3.0 mg/kg	0.05 mg/kg	0.1 mg/kg
	Zinc	550 mg/kg	100 mg/kg	10-300 mg/kg
#4 + 5 Composite	Lead	288 mg/kg	20 mg/kg	2-200 mg/kg
	Mercury	1.2 mg/kg	0.5 mg/kg	0.03 mg/kg
	Molybdenum	<10 mg/kg	3.0 mg/kg	2.0 mg/kg
	Silver	2.0 mg/kg	0.05 mg/kg	0.1 mg/kg
	Zinc	352 mg/kg	100 mg/kg	10-300 mg/kg
#6 Composite	Copper	159 mg/kg	50 mg/kg	2-200 mg/kg
	Lead	370 mg/kg	20 mg/kg	2-200 mg/kg
	Mercury	2.0 mg/kg	0.5 mg/kg	0.03 mg/kg
	Molybdenum	<10.0 mg/kg	3.0 mg/kg	2.0 mg/kg
	Silver	23.0 mg/kg	0.05 mg/kg	0.1 mg/kg

PSC ENGINEERS & CONSULTANTS, INC.	PROJECT	SUBJECT	PAGE
	ORIGINATOR	PROJECT NO.	OF
	CHECKED	DATE	
CALCULATION			

Divide Dry weight analysis by 20
gives quick and dirty feel for
what CP Toxicity test would be

ORIGINAL
(Red)

Analyte	Composite 1+2 Dry wt / %	Composite 3+4 Dry wt / %	Composite 4+5 Dry wt / %	Composite 6 Dry wt / %	EP Tox
Arsenic	4.0 / 0.2	2.0 / 0.1	4.0 / 0.2	7.0 / 0.35	5.0 mg/l
Barium	190. / 9.5	640 / 32	280. / 14.0	230 / 11.5	100 mg/l
Cadmium	0.8 / 0.04	<0.6 / 0.03	<0.6 / 0.03	<0.6 / 0.03	1.0 mg/l
Chromium	25 / 1.25	47 / 2.35	34 / 1.7	40 / 2.0	5.0 mg/l
Lead	564 / 28.2	175 / 8.75	288 / 14.4	370 / 18.5	5.0 mg/l
Mercury	0.4 / 0.02	0.3 / 0.02	1.2 / 0.06	2.0 / 0.1	0.2 mg/l
Selenium	<0.6 / 0.03	<0.6 / 0.03	<0.6 / 0.03	<0.6 / 0.03	1.0 mg/l
Silver	4.0 / 0.2	30 / 0.15	2.0 / 0.1	23 / 1.15	5.0 mg/l

1-215-575-115

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LLI Sample No. SW 1451413

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 1 + 2 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1400 by [REDACTED]

VO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ANALYSIS	RESULT		LIMIT OF	LAB CODE
	AS RECEIVED		QUANTITATION	
Moisture	19.8	% by wt.	0.1	011101100
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	3.	mg/kg	1.	014503300
Barium	150.	mg/kg	20.	014601300
Cadmium	0.6	mg/kg	0.5	014901300
Chromium	20.	mg/kg	5.	015101300
Copper	161.	mg/kg	2.	015301300
Lead	452.	mg/kg	5.	015501300
Mercury	0.3	mg/kg	0.1	015903300
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016001300
Nickel	21.	mg/kg	4.	016101300
Selenium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	016403300
Silver	3.	mg/kg	1.	016601300
Strontium	37.1	mg/kg	0.5	016801300
Zinc	320.	mg/kg	2.	017201300
Oil (Soxhlet Ext.)	0.02	% by wt.	0.01	023605000
Cyanide, Total	0.1	mg/kg	0.1	023705000
pH	7.42		0.01	039401000

Note:

The pH was performed on a 1:1 slurry (25 gms. of sample and 25 ml. of deionized water) after being stirred for 15 min.

Phenols	< 0.3	mg/kg	0.3	043404000
Corrosivity	see below			049600000

Corrosivity:

The pH of a 1:1 slurry (with deionized water) was 7.42 indicating that the waste is not corrosive.

A waste is corrosive if it exhibits a pH equal to or less than 2 or equal to or greater than 12.5.

BTU/lb	< 500.	BTU/lb	500.	051802500
Total Residue	80.2	% by wt.	0.1	052100000

The total residue is calculated by subtracting the moisture value from 100%.

Volatile Residue	3.3	% by wt.	0.1	052200600
Ignitability	see below			054201500

The sample did not spontaneously ignite when exposed to air or water.

The sample did not ignite when exposed to a Bunsen flame for ten seconds.

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301

Respectfully Submitted
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Reviewed and Approved by:

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Group Leader, Inorganics

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PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 1 + 2 Composite Soil Sample
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1400 by [REDACTED]
WO #1-89-04110

LLI Sample No. SW 1451413

Date Reported [REDACTED] 11/21/89
Date Submitted [REDACTED] 10/24/89
Discard Date [REDACTED] 12/22/89
Collected by [REDACTED]
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel.

ANALYSIS	RESULT		LIMIT OF	LAB CODE
Moisture *AS RECEIVED*	19.8	% by wt.	0.1	011104000
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	4.	mg/kg	1.	014504000
Barium	190.	mg/kg	20.	014604000
Cadmium	0.8	mg/kg	0.6	014904000
Chromium	25.	mg/kg	6.	015104000
Copper	200.	mg/kg	2.	015304000
Lead	564.	mg/kg	6.	015504000
Mercury	0.4	mg/kg	0.1	015904000
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016004000
Nickel	26.	mg/kg	5.	016104000
Selenium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	016404000
Silver	4.	mg/kg	1.	016604000
Strontium	46.3	mg/kg	0.6	016804000
Zinc	400.	mg/kg	2.	017204000
Oil (Soxhlet Ext.)	0.02	% by wt.	0.01	023604000
Cyanide, Total	0.2	mg/kg	0.1	023704000
Phenols	< 0.4	mg/kg	0.4	043404000
BTU/lb	< 600.	BTU/lb	600.	051804000
Total Org. Halogen	< 100.	mg/kg	100.	057404000

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ATTN: [REDACTED] Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301

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PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 1 + 2 Composite Soil Sample
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1400 by Not Resp
WO #1-89-04110

LLI Sample No. SW 1451413

Date Reported 11/21/89
Date Submitted 10/24/89
Discard Date 12/22/89
Collected by Not Resp
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel.

ANALYSIS	RESULT AS RECEIVED	LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
----------	-----------------------	--------------------------	----------

Presently, no EPA approved method exists to determine if a solid is "ignitable". The EPA has approved methods to determine "ignitability" only on liquids. Therefore, this test alone does not indicate whether the material is ignitable as defined by RCRA in the Federal Register, May 19, 1980, Section 261.21.

This test, which shows physical properties of the waste, along with other physical and chemical data available on the waste, can be used by responsible parties to judge if this sample is ignitable.

Total Org. Halogen	< 100.	mg/kg	100.	057406500
Reactivity		see below		112105000

Reactivity:

The sample was extracted by the interim method described in SW 846, Chapter 7.3. This solution was analyzed for cyanide and sulfide. This waste is not considered reactive and hazardous because it does not generate a quantity of cyanide exceeding 250 ppm or sulfide exceeding 500 ppm. These interim threshold limits were established by the Solid Waste Branch of EPA, July 12, 1985.

Sulfide (Reactivity)	< 50.	mg/kg	50.	112201500
Cyanide (Reactivity)	< 100.	mg/kg	100.	112302500

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PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 3 + 4 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1415 by [REDACTED]

WO #1-89-04110

LLI Sample No. SW 1451414

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ANALYSIS	RESULT AS RECEIVED		LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
Moisture	22.2	% by wt.	0.1	011101100
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	2.	mg/kg	1.	014503300
Barium	490.	mg/kg	20.	014601300
Cadmium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	014901300
Chromium	36.	mg/kg	5.	015101300
Copper	332.	mg/kg	2.	015301300
Lead	136.	mg/kg	5.	015501300
Mercury	0.2	mg/kg	0.1	015903300
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016001300
Nickel	48.	mg/kg	4.	016101300
Selenium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	016403300
Silver	2.	mg/kg	1.	016601300
Strontium	24.2	mg/kg	0.5	016801300
Zinc	428.	mg/kg	2.	017201300
Cyanide, Total	< 0.1	mg/kg	0.1	023705000
BTU/lb	< 500.	BTU/lb	500.	051802500
Total Residue	77.8	% by wt.	0.1	052100000

The total residue is calculated by subtracting the moisture value from 100%.

Volatile Residue	6.0	% by wt.	0.1	052200600
Ignitability	see below			054201500

The sample did not spontaneously ignite when exposed to air or water.
The sample did not ignite when exposed to a Bunsen flame for ten seconds.

Presently, no EPA approved method exists to determine if a solid is "ignitable". The EPA has approved methods to determine "ignitability" only on liquids. Therefore, this test alone does not indicate whether the material is ignitable as defined by RCRA in the Federal Register, May 19, 1980, Section 261.21.

This test, which shows physical properties of the waste, along with other physical and chemical data available on the waste, can be used by responsible parties to judge if this sample is ignitable.

Reactivity	see below	112105000
------------	-----------	-----------

Reactivity:

The sample was extracted by the interim method described in SW 846,

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301

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PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 3 + 4 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1415 by [REDACTED]

WO #1-89-04110

LLI Sample No. SW 1451414

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ANALYSIS	RESULT		LIMIT OF	LAB CODE
Moisture *AS RECEIVED*	22.2	% by wt.	0.1	011104000
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	2.	mg/kg	1.	014504000
Barium	640.	mg/kg	30.	014604000
Cadmium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	014904000
Chromium	47.	mg/kg	6.	015104000
Copper	426.	mg/kg	3.	015304000
Lead	175.	mg/kg	6.	015504000
Mercury	0.3	mg/kg	0.1	015904000
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016004000
Nickel	62.	mg/kg	5.	016104000
Selenium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	016404000
Silver	3.	mg/kg	1.	016604000
Strontium	31.1	mg/kg	0.6	016804000
Zinc	550.	mg/kg	3.	017204000
Cyanide, Total	< 0.1	mg/kg	0.1	023704000
BTU/lb	< 600.	BTU/lb	600.	051801000

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LLI Sample No. SW 1451414

PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012
Phoenixville 3 + 4 Composite Soil Sample
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1415 by [redacted]
WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89
Date Submitted 10/24/89
Discard Date 12/22/89
Collected by [redacted]
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

RESULT
AS RECEIVEDLIMIT OF
QUANTITATION LAB CODE

Chapter 7.3. This solution was analyzed for cyanide and sulfide.
This waste is not considered reactive and hazardous because it does
not generate a quantity of cyanide exceeding 250 ppm or sulfide
exceeding 500 ppm. These interim threshold limits were established by
the Solid Waste Branch of EPA, July 12, 1985.

Sulfide (Reactivity)	50.	mg/kg	50.	112201500
Cyanide (Reactivity)	< 100.	mg/kg	100.	112302500

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Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope

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Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301
026 00543 35.00 050100

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Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.
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LLI Sample No. SW 1451415

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 4 + 5 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1550 by [REDACTED]

WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS	RESULT AS RECEIVED		LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
Moisture	15.1	% by wt.	0.1	011101100
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	4.	mg/kg	1.	014503300
Barium	230.	mg/kg	20.	014601300
Cadmium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	014901300
Chromium	29.	mg/kg	5.	015101300
Copper	65.	mg/kg	2.	015301300
Lead	245.	mg/kg	5.	015501300
Mercury	1.0	mg/kg	0.1	015903300
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016001300
Nickel	24.	mg/kg	4.	016101300
Selenium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	016403300
Silver	2.	mg/kg	1.	016601300
Strontium	29.3	mg/kg	0.5	016801300
Zinc	298.	mg/kg	2.	017201300
Cyanide, Total	< 0.1	mg/kg	0.1	023705000
BTU/lb	< 500.	BTU/lb	500.	051802500
Total Residue	84.9	% by wt.	0.1	052100000

The total residue is calculated by subtracting the moisture value from 100%.

Volatile Residue	4.1	% by wt.	0.1	052200600
Ignitability	see below			054201500

The sample did not spontaneously ignite when exposed to air or water.
The sample did not ignite when exposed to a Bunsen flame for ten seconds.

Presently, no EPA approved method exists to determine if a solid is "ignitable". The EPA has approved methods to determine "ignitability" only on liquids. Therefore, this test alone does not indicate whether the material is ignitable as defined by RCRA in the Federal Register, May 19, 1980, Section 261.21.

This test, which shows physical properties of the waste, along with other physical and chemical data available on the waste, can be used by responsible parties to judge if this sample is ignitable.

Reactivity	see below	112105000
------------	-----------	-----------

Reactivity:

The sample was extracted by the interim method described in SW 846,

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301

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Reviewed and Approved by:

The American Association for
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Chemical, Biological & Environmental
Fields of Testing



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Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope

Group Leader, Inorganics

Lancaster Laboratories

INCORPORATED

VK2491 - H 2 - 8

LLI Sample No. SW 1451415

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 4 + 5 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1550 by [Redacted]

WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [Redacted]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

RESULT
AS RECEIVEDLIMIT OF
QUANTITATION LAB CODE

Chapter 7.3. This solution was analyzed for cyanide and sulfide. This waste is not considered reactive and hazardous because it does not generate a quantity of cyanide exceeding 250 ppm or sulfide exceeding 500 ppm. These interim threshold limits were established by the Solid Waste Branch of EPA, July 12, 1985.

Sulfide (Reactivity)	< 50.	mg/kg	50.	112201500
Cyanide (Reactivity)	< 100.	mg/kg	100.	112302500

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026 00543 35.00 050100

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Lancaster Laboratories

INCORPORATED

VK2491 H 2 8

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 4 + 5 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1550 by [REDACTED]

VO #1-89-04110

LLI Sample No. SW 1451415

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

Moisture *AS RECEIVED*

"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at
103 - 105 degrees Celsius.

	RESULT		LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
	DRY WT. BASIS	% by wt.		
Moisture	15.1	% by wt.	0.1	011104000
Arsenic	4.	mg/kg	1.	014504000
Barium	280.	mg/kg	20.	014604000
Cadmium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	014904000
Chromium	34.	mg/kg	6.	015104000
Copper	77.	mg/kg	2.	015304000
Lead	288.	mg/kg	6.	015504000
Mercury	1.2	mg/kg	0.1	015904000
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016004000
Nickel	28.	mg/kg	5.	016104000
Selenium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	016404000
Silver	2.	mg/kg	1.	016604000
Strontium	34.6	mg/kg	0.6	016804000
Zinc	352.	mg/kg	2.	017204000
Cyanide, Total	< 0.1	mg/kg	0.1	023704000
BTU/lb	< 600.	BTU/lb	600.	051801000

2 COPIES TO PSC Engineers & Consultants ATTN: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 686-2301

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Lancaster Laboratories

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WK2491 M 2 8

LLI Sample No. SW 1451416

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 6 Composite Soil Sample

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1615 by [REDACTED]

VO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

Moisture

RESULT
AS RECEIVED

22.2 % by wt.

LIMIT OF
QUANTITATION

0.1

LAB CODE

011101100

"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at
103 - 105 degrees Celsius.

Arsenic	5.	mg/kg	1.	014503300
Barium	180.	mg/kg	20.	014601300
Cadmium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	014901300
Chromium	32.	mg/kg	5.	015101300
Copper	123.	mg/kg	2.	015301300
Lead	288.	mg/kg	5.	015501300
Mercury	1.6	mg/kg	0.1	015903300
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016001300
Nickel	21.	mg/kg	4.	016101300
Selenium	< 0.5	mg/kg	0.5	016403300
Silver	18.	mg/kg	1.	016601300
Strontium	89.5	mg/kg	0.5	016801300
Zinc	228.	mg/kg	2.	017201300
Cyanide, Total	0.5	mg/kg	0.1	023705000
BTU/lb	< 500.	BTU/lb	500.	051802500
Total Residue	77.8	% by wt.	0.1	052100000

The total residue is calculated by subtracting the moisture value from
100%.

Volatile Residue

3.4 % by wt.

0.1

052200600

Ignitability

see below

054201500

The sample did not spontaneously ignite when exposed to air or water.
The sample did not ignite when exposed to a Bunsen flame for ten seconds.

Presently, no EPA approved method exists to determine if a solid is
"ignitable". The EPA has approved methods to determine "ignitability"
only on liquids. Therefore, this test alone does not indicate whether
the material is ignitable as defined by RCRA in the Federal Register,
May 19, 1980, Section 261.21.

This test, which shows physical properties of the waste, along with other
physical and chemical data available on the waste, can be used by responsi-
ble parties to judge if this sample is ignitable.

Reactivity

see below

112105000

Reactivity:

The sample was extracted by the interim method described in SW 846,

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301

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Reviewed and Approved by:

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Group Leader, Inorganics

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WK2491 M 2 8

LLI Sample No. SW 1451416

PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012
Phoenixville 6 Composite Soil Sample
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1615 by Not Responsive
WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89
Date Submitted 10/24/89
Discard Date 12/22/89
Collected by Not Responsive
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

RESULT
AS RECEIVEDLIMIT OF
QUANTITATION

LAB CODE

Chapter 7.3. This solution was analyzed for cyanide and sulfide.
This waste is not considered reactive and hazardous because it does
not generate a quantity of cyanide exceeding 250 ppm or sulfide
exceeding 500 ppm. These interim threshold limits were established by
the Solid Waste Branch of EPA, July 12, 1985.

ANALYSIS	RESULT AS RECEIVED	LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
Sulfide (Reactivity)	< 50. mg/kg	50.	112201500
Cyanide (Reactivity)	< 100. mg/kg	100.	112302500

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026 00543 35.00 050100

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VK2491 M 2 8

LLI Sample No. SW 1451416

PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

Phoenixville 6 Composite Soil Sample
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1615 by [REDACTED]
WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89
Date Submitted 10/24/89
Discard Date 12/22/89
Collected by [REDACTED]
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel. [REDACTED]

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS	RESULT		LIMIT OF	LAB CODE
Moisture *AS RECEIVED*	22.2	% by wt.	0.1	011104000
"Moisture" represents the loss in weight of the sample after oven drying at 103 - 105 degrees Celsius.				
Arsenic	7.	mg/kg	1.	014504000
Barium	230.	mg/kg	30.	014604000
Cadmium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	014904000
Chromium	40.	mg/kg	6.	015104000
Copper	159.	mg/kg	3.	015304000
Lead	370.	mg/kg	6.	015504000
Mercury	2.0	mg/kg	0.1	015904000
Molybdenum	< 10.	mg/kg	10.	016004000
Nickel	27.	mg/kg	5.	016104000
Selenium	< 0.6	mg/kg	0.6	016404000
Silver	23.	mg/kg	1.	016604000
Strontium	115.	mg/kg	0.6	016804000
Zinc	293.	mg/kg	3.	017204000
Cyanide, Total	0.6	mg/kg	0.1	023704000
BTU/lb	< 600.	BTU/lb	600.	051801000

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Reviewed and Approved by:

[REDACTED]

Group Leader, Inorganics

Lancaster Laboratories

INCORPORATED

WK2491 H 2 8

LLI Sample No. WV 1451417

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

ASTM Leachate of Phoenixville 1 + 2 Composite Soil

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1400 by [REDACTED]

WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

	RESULT AS RECEIVED	LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
Total Solids	410. mg/l	20.	020301100
Total Fixed Solids	340. mg/l	20.	020400600
Total Volatile Solids	70. mg/l	20.	020500000
Total Suspended Solids	4. mg/l	4.	020601300
Fixed Suspended Solids	< 4. mg/l	4.	020700600
Volatile Suspended Solids	< 4. mg/l	4.	020800000
Chlorine Residual (DPD)	< 0.05 mg/l	0.05	024001800

The above analyses were performed on a leachate prepared from the submitted waste according to ASTM method 3987-85.

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Not Responsive Due to Revised Scope

The American Association for
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Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301
026 00543 35.00 008900

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Lancaster Laboratories

INCORPORATED

WK2491-H-2-8

LLI Sample No. WV 1451418

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

ASTM Leachate of Phoenixville 3 + 4 Composite Soil

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1415 by [REDACTED]

VO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

Total Solids
Total Fixed Solids
Total Volatile Solids
Total Suspended Solids
Fixed Suspended Solids
Volatile Suspended Solids
Chlorine Residual (DPD)

RESULT AS RECEIVED

180. mg/l
100. mg/l
80. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 0.05 mg/l

LIMIT OF QUANTITATION

20. LAB CODE
20. 020301100
20. 020400600
20. 020500000
4. 020601300
4. 020700600
4. 020800000
0.05 024001800

The above analyses were performed on a leachate prepared from the submitted waste according to ASTM method 3987-85.

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The American Association for
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Chemical, Biological & Environmental
Methods of Testing

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301
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[REDACTED]

Group Leader, Inorganics



Lancaster Laboratories

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WK2491 M 2 8

LLI Sample No. WV 1451419

PSC Engineers & Consultants

1650 Manheim Pike

P. O. Box 3012

Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

ASTM Leachate of Phoenixville 4 + 5 Composite Soil

Collected on 10/23/89 at 1550 by [REDACTED]

WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89

Date Submitted 10/24/89

Discard Date 12/22/89

Collected by [REDACTED]

P.O. 1-89-04110

Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

	RESULT AS RECEIVED		LIMIT OF QUANTITATION	LAB CODE
Total Solids	160.	mg/l	20.	020301100
Total Fixed Solids	100.	mg/l	20.	020400600
Total Volatile Solids	60.	mg/l	20.	020500000
Total Suspended Solids	< 4.	mg/l	4.	020601300
Fixed Suspended Solids	< 4.	mg/l	4.	020700600
Volatile Suspended Solids	< 4.	mg/l	4.	020800000
Chlorine Residual (DPD)	< 0.05	mg/l	0.05	024001800

The above analyses were performed on a leachate prepared from the submitted waste according to ASTM method 3987-85.

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ATTN:

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Chemical, Biological & Environmental
Methods of Testing

Questions? Contact Environmental
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LLI Sample No. WV 1451420

PSC Engineers & Consultants
1650 Manheim Pike
P. O. Box 3012
Lancaster, PA 17604-3012

ASTM Leachate of Phoenixville 6 Composite Soil
Collected on 10/23/89 at 1615 by [redacted]
WO #1-89-04110

Date Reported 11/21/89
Date Submitted 10/24/89
Discard Date 12/22/89
Collected by [redacted]
P.O. 1-89-04110
Rel.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

ANALYSIS

Total Solids
Total Fixed Solids
Total Volatile Solids
Total Suspended Solids
Fixed Suspended Solids
Volatile Suspended Solids
Chlorine Residual (DPD)

RESULT
AS RECEIVED

370. mg/l
300. mg/l
70. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 4. mg/l
< 0.05 mg/l

LIMIT OF
QUANTITATION

20. LAB CODE
20. 020301100
20. 020400600
4. 020500000
4. 020601300
4. 020700600
4. 020800000
0.05 024001800

The above analyses were performed on a leachate prepared from the submitted waste according to ASTM method 3987-85.

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ATTN: [redacted]

The American Association for
Laboratory Accreditation
Chemical, Biological & Environmental
Fields of Testing

Questions? Contact Environmental
Technical Services at (717) 656-2301
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Reviewed and Approved by:

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Group Leader, Inorganics



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Chemical find forces athletes off area field

Schuylkill officials alert DER

4-10-90

By CHARLENE KERWIN
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Chemicals found Friday on the grounds of the Valley Forge Christian College have forced the Phoenixville Area High School girls' lacrosse team to find a new playing field, according to Phoenixville Area School District officials.

Meanwhile, the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors sent a letter yesterday to the state Department of Environmental Resources in Norristown informing officials of the recent discovery of hazardous materials on the college grounds.

Supervisor G. Edward Heit, who thinks the recent discovery may be linked to several cancer cases in the area, said this morning that the township sent a letter to Joseph Feola, manager of the DER's Bureau of Waste Management.

The high school lacrosse team was forced to find a new playing field this week when containers with some kind of chemical were found on the second floor of the old psychiatric ward buildings of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital, according to Superin-

tendent Carolyn Trohoski, who refused to identify the substance.

The school district was notified by VFCC officials of the situation on Friday, she said.

Neither VFCC President Wesley Smith, state Department of Environmental Resources officials, nor Chester County Department of Health officials could be reached this morning for comment.

Since the empty buildings are located next to the field where the high school's lacrosse team practices and holds games, the team has been temporarily moved up the street to the Center for Arts and Technology Pickering Campus, Trohoski said.

"We have suspended all play and practice" on the college grounds, she said.

The high school girls' hockey team also practices and plays games during the fall on the same field.

State Rep. Peter R. Vroon, R-157th, said yesterday he is looking into the connection of the cancer cases to the site of the former hospital.

Trohoski reported in January

(Continued on Page 9)

ORIGINAL
(Red)

Chemical find forces athletes off area field

(Continued from Page 1)

that about 120 square feet of a 35-acre tract owned by the district was contaminated with heavy metals, including lead and zinc that came from X-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator.

The army hospital operated for more than 30 years, treating servicemen wounded in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It closed in 1974.

Schuylkill residents concerned about soil

ORIGINAL
(Nes)

4-12-90
By VERONICA PRATT
(Local News Correspondent)

SCHUYLKILL — More than 150 residents turned out Wednesday to question the board about the discovery of contaminated soil on the grounds of the former Valley Forge Military Hospital.

Besides the board, state Rep. Peter Vroom, R-Valley Forge, Dr. John Maher, director of Chester County's Health Department and township solicitor Robert Sugarman took part in the meeting.

Supervisor Theodore Ryan gave a summary of the case. He said on March 29 the board had been contacted by a property owner, Dr. Joseph Weinstock, who inquired about a possible connection between Hodgkin's Disease and contaminated soil at the hospital.

On April 2, Ryan contacted Maher and asked for his assistance. Seven days later, he telephoned Joseph Seola, manager of bureau of waste management at the state Department of Environmental Resources, reported the situation and asked for intervention.

Ryan said the state agency is scheduled to perform tests on the hospital grounds today.

Residents, however, wanted some answers Wednesday night. Questions ranged from the safety of the well water to how soon results of the site testing will become available.

Sugarman said a connection has to be established and that the process might not be accomplished over night.

"That stuff has been there for years and nobody attached any significance to it," Sugarman said.

"Let's not blame ourselves or the board members ... What's happened over the last eight weeks isn't as important as what will happen over the next eight years," he said.

Maher said, "As far as I know there's been no exposure to this community. There's nothing in medical literature that links Hodgkin's Disease with chemical contamination.

He assured residents that a questionnaire would be sent to them to help determine if there was a link between the cluster of cases.

Meanwhile residents asked for information on the DER finding as soon as possible. They promised to return to the next meeting.



VOL. 60 NO. 166
POTTSTOWN, PA. 19464
THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

A PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING

-Health concerns attract crowd



POLLUTION FEARS — Residents line up outside the Schuylkill Township building Wednesday, waiting to get inside for the supervisors meeting (above). The size of the crowd — about 130 people — forced the relocation of the meeting to the Valley Forge Fire Hall. Residents were concerned about suspected toxic waste on the site of the former Valley Forge Military Hospital. Among them was Jeff Kurtz, who grew up near the site and now is suffering from Hodgkin's disease. (left).



Residents
fear possible
toxic waste site

By LINDA TRIEGEL
Special to The Mercury

SCHUYLKILL TWP. — Doctors, lawyers, township and county officials did their best Wednesday night to calm nearly 130 residents who jammed a supervisors meeting to express concern over a suspected toxic waste site.

The size of the crowd forced the supervisors to move the meeting from the tiny township building to the Valley Forge Fire Hall.

Five residents of the Evergreen Acres housing development, who were recently diagnosed as having Hodgkin's Disease, were in attendance.

Hodgkin's disease is cancer of the lymph nodes. All five residents live near the former Valley Forge Military Hospital site, where abnormally high levels of toxic materials were found in the soil in January.

Supervisor Ted Ryan said township officials first learned of the

(See SCHUYLKILL on 5)

Warning: Stay away from tox



Photo by Joe Wallace

Schuylkill resident Michael Fulmer Sr. addresses officials last night about his concerns.

Health offici site at ex-a

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — County officials are warning parents keep their children away from grounds of the former V.A. Forge General Hospital until they learn if the chemicals and minerals found there pose a health threat.

Department of Environmental Resources (DER) officials toured the site this morning. Berks Schuylkill Township Supervisor Theodore Ryan and Wayne Leuchak of the Chester County Health Department attended.

Health Department Director John P. Maher said last night that contamination would only occur through "prolonged physical contact" with the lead and zinc found in a 120-square-foot depression on the site. The contamination came from x-ray remains buried

For affected neighbors, calm fields belie

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — An eerie silence now hangs over the athletic fields near Linda Nahrgang's home on Ellwand Drive

against hysteria, they are also warning parents to keep their children from the site until they know more about the chemicals there.

At a Schuylkill Township meeting last night, Nahrgang was among more than 100

Bu
ing a
surface
from
"

"I know it sounds

Cancer victims point to childhood play spot in Chesco

4-13-90
ORIGINAL
(Red)

By Daniel Kaufman
Special to The Inquirer

Often during his childhood in Schuylkill Township, Jeff Kurtz crawled under the fence in his back yard onto the land where the Valley Forge Army Hospital once operated.

He loved to stroll through the abandoned red brick buildings, where veterans from World War II and Korea and Vietnam had been treated, or play softball outside with other kids from the neighborhood.

Michael Fulmer Jr. also spent hours roaming around the property.

He and his brother would ride their bikes from their homes in Bevans Orchard a mile away and race them around an oval dirt-bike track.

Now Kurtz, 20, and Fulmer, 21, suffer from Hodgkin's disease, a form of lymphatic cancer. Three other current or former residents of South Evergreen Drive have also contracted the disease over the last 15 years.

Although Hodgkin's disease has never been linked to toxic substances, Fulmer and Kurtz think something on the old hospital grounds may have caused their illnesses.

nesses.

"We thought it was weird that five guys living around the hospital got the disease," Kurtz said.

In January, the Phoenixville Area School District, which leased a 35-acre piece of the property from the federal government for a possible elementary school site, announced it had found highly toxic levels of lead, zinc and silver buried in a sunken 120-square-foot section of ground less than 100 feet from the fence behind Kurtz's former home.

That was about the time Kurtz and

Fulmer found out about each other's conditions. Through a network of friends and relatives, they also learned of the other cases.

Then, last Friday, three small, decayed cans of cyanide powder were found at what once was one of the hospital's psychiatric wards. Wesley Smith, president of the 500-student Valley Forge Christian College, which occupies most of the property, told school officials of the discovery.

As a result, the school district moved its students away from softball and lacrosse fields to another

section of the property, said Carolyn Trohoski. And today, the U.S. Army Chemical Command in Rockford, Ill., will come in to remove the cyanide, Smith said.

Accompanied by family members and Larry Robinson, 44, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's this year, Fulmer and Kurtz asked the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors at meetings on April 4 and on Wednesday to find out why the site, which is about 80 acres, had never been examined more thoroughly and cleaned up. State Rep. Peter R. Vroon

(R., Chester-Montgomery) said at Wednesday's meeting that the state Department of Environmental Resources had run tests on the property and found nothing.

The hospital closed in 1974, and the U.S. General Services Administration began leasing parts of the land to several entities, including Charlestown Township, which uses it as a recreation area.

Chester County Health Director John Maher told about 100 Phoenixville area residents at Wednesday's (See CANCER on 5-B)

CANCER, from 1-B
meeting that lead was by far the most dangerous of the metals, but only through ingestion or prolonged contact with the skin.

"Unless you've got somebody literally rolling in it, it's not a carcinogen," he said.

Maher added that the presence of lead could be remains of lead protection vests incinerated and buried by the hospital, but could also have come from a lead and silver mine that was beneath the property or some other source.

The DER began a site inspection of the property yesterday to assess the level of danger and to look for other possible hazards.

Maher and several other medical experts said that no link between Hodgkin's and any chemical had ever been established.

"It isn't considered a chemical-induced disease — it's expected to be viral," said Howard Frumkin, an epidemiologist at the University of Pennsylvania.

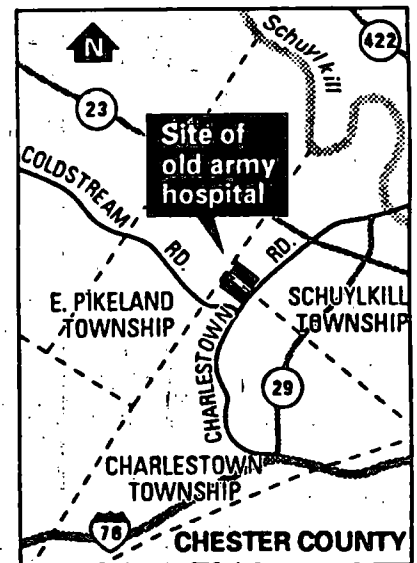
Nevertheless, said Chris Holroyde, an oncologist at Phoenixville Hospital who is treating several of the men, "this is a very unusual clustering of cases which is beyond anything one would normally expect."

Hodgkin's is a "very curable" form of cancer that often strikes men between their late teens and early 40s, Holroyde said.

After each discovered he had the enlarged lymph nodes that signify Hodgkin's disease — Fulmer in June 1987 and Kurtz in December 1989 — they had to drop everything for treatment. Fulmer gave up plans to enlist in the Navy; Kurtz dropped out of Auburn University.

Although they recognize that the cause of their illnesses may never be known, both men say they want to make sure people in the area are made aware of any dangers from the property.

"It's so other people don't get the same problems we do," Fulmer said. "It's been pretty hectic dealing with it."



The Philadelphia Inquirer

Stay away and give time to investigate

Residents who live near the former Valley Forge General Hospital have finally gotten the attention of county health and state environmental officials. Their concerns over toxic chemicals found there are being fully investigated.

Still, it took some brave souls who stood up at a recent meeting and said they have become victims of Hodgkins disease to draw all of this official attention. And it didn't hurt that more than 100 residents crowded into the Valley Forge Fire Co. garage this week to ask public officials what they are doing about it.

The first course of action, officials told parents, is to keep their children away from the grounds of the former hospital until they learn if the chemicals and minerals found there do, indeed, pose a health hazard.

The next day, Department of Environmental Resources (DER) officials toured the contaminated site along with Schuylkill Township Supervisor Theodore Ryan and Walt Leuchak.

The contamination apparently came from x-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator years ago. The materials were discovered about 18 months ago by Phoenixville Area School District.

The main thing to remember is not to panic. According to John P. Maher, director of the Chester County Health Department, "You literally have to be rolling in it" to be harmed.

Concerning another find, powdered cyanide discovered last week in a locked room of the former army hospital's psychiatric ward, officials promise to take action. The deteriorating container will be removed from the Valley Forge Christian College building.

The college occupies the buildings where the cyanide was found, and the school district owns the parcel where the contaminants were found.

Understandably, residents were upset when they gathered this week. Township supervisors were asked repeatedly why they did not look into reports of dumping and hazardous chemicals sooner.

"The very evidence of contaminated ground doesn't justify bringing out the Lithuanian Army," was the reply from Norman Vutz, chairman of the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors.

No, this is not a case for the Lithuanian Army. This is a case for health officials to investigate and recommend corrective measures. The school district found the contamination months ago, but the township didn't get involved until literally days ago.

ORIGINAL
(100)

Schuylkill residents voice fear about toxins

By Daniel Kaufman
Special to The Inquirer

Schuylkill Township residents want to call out the Army to Valley Forge.

But this time, they say, the Army's assignment is to clean up its own mess.

More than 100 people packed the Valley Forge Volunteer Fire Company firehouse Wednesday for a special meeting of the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors. The meeting was called to discuss what was being done about toxins found

in and around the old Valley Forge Army Hospital.

The hospital treated veterans of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War during 30 years in operation.

Residents also wanted to know whether the dangerous levels of lead and other metals found in the ground, or the cans of cyanide found in one of the hospital's psychiatric wards, could have caused the five cases of Hodgkin's disease diagnosed in the neighborhood around the hospital in the last 15 years.

In an interview, Wesley Smith, president of Valley Forge Christian College, said the Army Chemical Command in Rockford, Ill., planned to remove the cans of cyanide from the premises.

The hospital property is owned by the U.S. General Services Administration. Portions of it were leased to the Phoenixville Area School District, Valley Forge Christian College and Charlestown Township after the hospital's official closing in 1974. Area residents, however, said the hospital had been used for two more

years. At the meeting, numerous residents criticized the Board of Supervisors for not contacting the appropriate federal, state or county regulatory agencies soon after the Phoenixville school district tested its land in January and found contaminants.

Board members countered that they had jumped on the problem as quickly as possible once they understood the threat.

"Every instance of contaminated ground does not justify bringing out the Lithuanian army," board Presi-

dent Norman Vutz said.

Board members said they had notified the state Department of Environmental Resources branch in Norristown, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta and the Army. The board also notified State Rep. Peter R. Vroom (R., Chester-Montgomery) and John Maher, Chester County's health director. Both attended the meeting Wednesday.

Vroom told the board that he had talked to officials from the DER, who (See TOXINS on Page 9)

Residents voice fear over toxins

TOXINS, from Page 3
he said were "not downplaying this, but they've been testing for years and not finding anything."

DER officials joined Supervisor Ted Ryan and Chester County health officials at the site Thursday.

In an interview Thursday, Jason Gaertner, a DER spokesman, said the agency had not done any additional testing. The agency will examine soil samples already collected by the school district, Gaertner said.

Maher said he did not know whether the metals posed any danger to residents and said he knew of no evidence of a chemical link to Hodgkin's disease. Nevertheless, he said, "I would recommend keeping kids off the property."

Original
(copy)

Feds called in to probe toxins

4-16-90

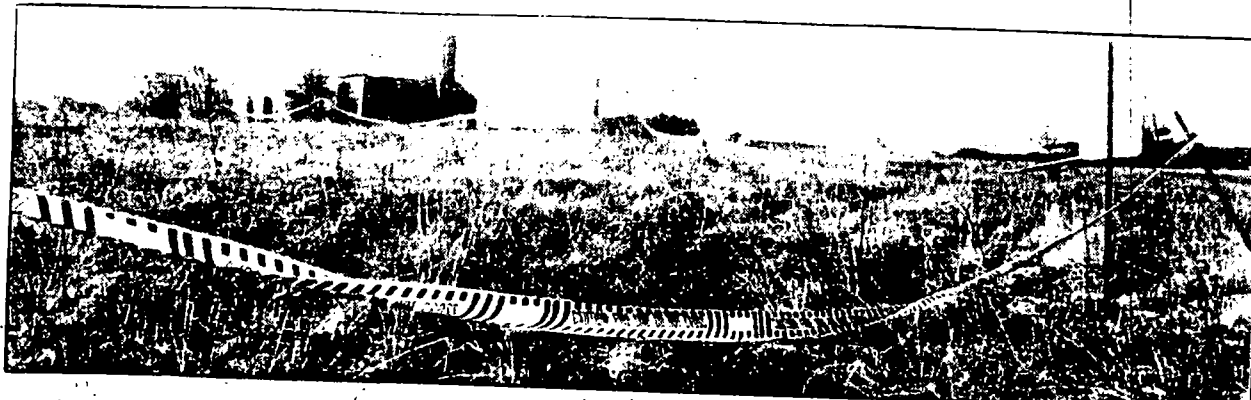
By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — State officials are asking the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to look into the contamination of land surrounding an abandoned incinerator at the site of the former Valley Forge General Hospital.

According to George Danyliw, manager of an eight-county state Superfund program, officials concluded after Thursday's site inspection that there may have been dumping in the area.

Danyliw said DER officials will file out a discovery complaint by the end of this week. The complaint will be forwarded to EPA for its evaluation of potential health risk.

In the complaint, DER will



Staff photo by Liz Andrews Wilton

The contaminated area is officially off-limits, and a gate nearby has been locked.

outline what it knows about the site, including records of inspections and permits.

It is doubtful that DER granted permits for the incinerator, since the former Army hospital was built and maintained by the

federal government, said Joseph Feola, director of the Bureau of Waste Management for the Norristown Region.

Also included in the DER complaint will be tests of soil samples taken last October for the

Phoenixville Area School District. The results of the tests, announced in January, noted that abnormally high levels of lead and zinc were found in a depression near an abandoned incinerator where hospital waste

was buried. No radiation or organic vapors were found in the holes tested by Lancaster Labs, a consultant for the Phoenixville Area School District.

By law, EPA must complete its assessment of the Township Line Road site within one year of the complaint. Danyliw said he did not know EPA system for handling complaint.

"It may be first come, first serve, or may not be," Danyliw said.

In addition to environmental sampling, EPA will review records of VFGH. After the assessment, EPA will recommend either a "medium" or a "screaming" response, depending on the potential health risk. The EPA assessment will include an in-

(Continued on Page 3)

Feds called in to probe site

(Continued from Page 1)

vestigation of the size of the dump and may include sampling outside the 120-square-foot area identified by the school district.

After that DER will offer its comments on the report. Its comments will determine whether the incinerator dump should be listed among national priority sites. At present there are 708 priority sites in the eastern region of Pennsylvania, Danyliw said.

Feola said the incinerator waste suspected to be buried there is not necessarily hazardous.

"It depends on what it is and the temperatures it was burned at," Feola said.

Meanwhile, a private access road that runs past the site from Township Line Road has been locked. During Thursday's site inspection, the metal fence gate had been unlocked. Also, yellow plastic tape has been staked around the contaminated site.

The site, previously roped off by the school district with red fencing, had not been marked off for several weeks.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

School teams barred from poisoned field

By LAURA CATALANO
Special to The Mercury

PHOENIXVILLE — Phoenixville Area School District Superintendent Caroline Trohoski has ordered school softball and lacrosse teams to stop using fields feared to be contaminated with toxic waste.

The lacrosse team had been using the field this spring near Evergreen Acres, where five residents have been diagnosed as having Hodgkin's Disease, a cancer of the lymph nodes.

The field is one of two locations where dangerously high levels of lead, zinc and other toxic substances were found by the school district in January. The other field is along Township Line Road near Coldstream Road.

The district acquired the land from the federal government when the Valley Forge Military Hospital closed at the site in 1978.

A softball field and other athletic fields are located at the site near Evergreen Acres.

Trohoski suspended teams from using the field after learning two weeks ago that several area residents who had once played on

The lacrosse team had been using the field, which is one of two locations where dangerously high levels of lead, zinc and other toxic substances were found by the school district in January.

nearby fields had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease.

The disease is being linked by the victims to contamination found on the site. However, township and county health officials have declined to make the link, pending further testing.

Trohoski said she suspended softball teams from using the field behind an abandoned building owned by Valley Forge Christian College after learning last Friday that three containers of cyanide had been found in the building.

The containers hold a total of 2 pounds of cyanide, she said. They

(See TEAMS on 6)

PAGE 6 / THE MERCURY, MARKET

Teams off toxic field

(TEAMS from 1)

were left there for rodent control when the building was abandoned, Trohoski said.

The cyanide was found by a contractor hired by Valley Forge Christian College to demolish the buildings. Either the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of the state Department of Environmental Resources will remove the cyanide, Trohoski said.

Trohoski said the federal government still owns the land near Evergreen Acres.

The federal government allowed the school district 30 years to either build a school on the property or give it back, Trohoski said.

The federal government is responsible for testing the soil and cleanup of the toxins, she said.

There is a chance the district will be reimbursed by the government for the \$7,000 already spent in testing and research.

The district wants to give half the land back to the government and keep the other half for a bus garage and maintenance building. These buildings did not come in contact with contaminated soil, Trohoski said.

The softball team is now playing at the Phoenixville YMCA. The lacrosse games have been moved to a field at the Center for Arts and Technology, Pickering Campus.

Trohoski said all fields will have to be retested before activities can be resumed.

Army Corps joins probe of ash pit

4-21-90

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — The United States Army Corps of Engineers has joined county, state, and federal agencies probing the discovery of a hospital incinerator dump site on the grounds of the former Valley Forge General Hospital.

According to Bruce Heipke, director of FUDS clean up, the agency is trying to shuffle its priorities to fund testing at the VFGH site. FUDS are "formerly used defense sites" that have been transferred to another entity. VFGH is now technically owned by the Phoenixville Area

School District and Valley Forge Christian College.

"We have to reprogram our funds to make funds available for the initial investigation," Heipke said.

Heipke plans to transfer \$20,000 to a Missouri Bureau of The Corps that specializes in testing FUDS, he said. An investigation has to occur and be completed to determine if a cleanup needs to be done.

He said The Corps has about 7,000 FUDS slated for cleanup. He said it targets the "worst ones first."

Heipke said the Army Corps of

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

Engineers is concerned about the VFGH property because the incinerated hospital waste buried there is not contained.

According to the Environmental Research Foundation, modern standards for landfilling any type of waste material include a pipe and liner system to collect leachate, water that gets badly contaminated by contacting wastes. ERF, a Princeton-based organization that publishes a weekly hazardous waste newsletter, and other environmental groups contend no landfill is leak proof.

There were no solid waste standards in 1943 when the hospital began burning its refuse. Waste thought to be harmless then has since been found to be hazardous.

ERF said that fractured bedrock beneath a landfill is "highly undesirable" because the wastes can't be located if they escape. In tests performed on a 120 square-foot portion of the dump for the Phoenixville Area School District, rock was found between 8 and 12 feet beneath the surface.

Hepke said he did know how dangerous the ash dump could be.

"At this point in time we don't know the hazard. What is loose in the environment is more of a concern," Heipke said.

He said The Corps has not

rushed to Schuylkill to pick up the cans of cyanide found at VFGH two weeks ago because it is more concerned about investigating the ash dump.

"It has greater potential for hazards than the cyanide," Heipke said.

The Corps has joined the other agencies in the probe, Heipke said, because it may be ultimately be in charge of the clean-up if the contamination is found to be a health risk.

The Environmental Protection Agency is charged with finding the organizations responsible for

dumping in a site and deciding who and how to clean it up.

Since the Army was the obvious creator of the ash waste dump, it would be charged with the cleanup. The Corps of Engineers is the arm of the military that is responsible for cleaning up FUDS.

Residents testing well water near site of toxic ash dump

4-20-90

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Fearing contamination from an incinerator dump on the grounds of the former Valley Forge General Hospital, residents along Township Line Road have begun testing their wells.

At least two residents who live nearby a plot of land found to have abnormally high levels of lead said they have made appointments to have their wells tested.

A narrow access road is all that divides Maryann Smith's well from the dump site. From the window of her trailer she can see the yellow tape blocking off the contaminated land and she wonders if that is enough to keep the lead away from her well.

Even though Smith drinks bottled water, she still worries.

"I have eight grandchildren. I have them here day and night," she says.

Smith says she can't follow them around to make sure they always drink bottled water. The kids are used to just reaching for a tap, she says.

Smith said she is not going to wait for the Chester County Health Department to recommend testing. She said the safety of her grandchildren is worth the \$155.50 she will have to shell out to know if her water is contaminated.

Smith is testing her well for zinc, lead, sulfur, and silver.

Smith said she drinks bottled water because she has found her well water smells funny.

Smith's neighbor, Dixie Souder, said she is also checking her well water, but she is not panicking.

"There is no sense in panicking now. The damage has been done," Souder said. Souder said her husband, John, planned to get the water tested after tax season. John is an accountant and is very busy during that time of year she said.

John and Dixie began talking about well tests after a recent Schuylkill Township meeting where a number of Evergreen Acres residents called for a probe into a possible link between a



Staff photo by Brian M. Christopher

Scott and Dixie Souder at the side of their pool, which they fill with well water; VFCC is in background.

cluster of Hodgkin's Disease cases and the lead contamination.

"I know some of the people who got cancer in Evergreen Acres. We've gone through hell with them," Souder said.

Although health officials say there is no link she still wonders.

"Is it the water or the grass... You begin to wonder," Souder said.

Evergreen Acres, a housing development northwest of the former Valley Forge General Hospital, and Valley Forge Christian College are served by the Phoenixville Water Department.

Residents along Township Line Road have private well water.

Investigators face prospect VFGH records gone forever

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Records that could help investigators learn what is buried in a controversial incinerator dump may not even exist.

According to Roy Pirritano, Public Affairs Officer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Philadelphia, records from the former Valley Forge General Hospital were probably destroyed. The Corps is the agency ultimately responsible for cleaning up the dump site.

Pirritano says "completion reports" requested by The Evening Phoenix were "not available." The standard forms were filed by a contractor with The Corps after the hospital was completed in 1943. The reports describe construction of

"You don't know what you are asking for. There are boxes and boxes which were probably burned" ... about eight years after construction of the hospital.

— Roy Pirritano
public affairs officer
U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers

buildings and probably give an indication of a waste disposal plan.

"You don't know what you are asking for. There are boxes and boxes which were probably burned," Pirritano said. He said Corps records were pro-

bably destroyed about eight years after construction.

Without records, it will be difficult for investigators to determine if a cluster of Hodgkin's disease cases in a development near the hospital is linked to what may be buried at the site.

Greg Schirm, director of the Delaware Valley Toxic Coalition, an environmental group concerned with toxic waste, says the key to finding out what was buried around the hospital and if anything could be connected to the Hodgkin's cases is not an epidemiological study or site testing, although those are important.

Testing soil, he says, is like finding a "needle in a haystack" when nothing is known about a site like VFGH.

(Continued on Page 12)

Investigators may be facing prospect records destroyed

(Continued from Page 1)

Schirm says records of activities at the VFGH would tell state and federal investigators what to look for in test samples. For instance, Schirm wonders, did doctors use a lot of disposable items made of plastic, as they do in modern hospitals? Plastics are known to produce dioxins but were not used as much then as they are today.

The hospital is known to have been a center for tuberculosis and hepatitis patients. The diseases are contagious, which may have given doctors cause to use disposables.

Purchase records might indicate the chemicals the doctors used. Other records may indicate how were they disposed. It's all

speculation without them.

Alvin E. Cox, a former groundskeeper at the hospital, said last week he supervised the burning of "everything" except radioactive material in the 113 building complex. Cox could not be more specific about what kinds of material he burned over the thirty years he worked there. He said it included infectious waste.

Meanwhile, the Chester County Health Department has begun its preliminary investigation into the cluster of Hodgkin's disease.

Questionnaires about health-care history are being mailed this week to six residents and former residents in Evergreen Acres who have the lymphatic cancer. A consent form seeking permission to study the resident's health records is also being included.

4-25-90

Toxin report on way

4-30-90

Said to show storage tanks, drums buried

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — A site report of an Army Corps inspection of the former Valley Forge General Hospital grounds is expected to show storage tanks and 55 gallon chemical drums buried on the property.

The report, which languished in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers bureaucracy for nearly two years, will be issued within the week, according to Army Corps officials.

"I understand its approval is imminent," said Bill Piccirilli, Army Corps project engineer for the hospital's cleanup. Piccirilli is based in the Baltimore District of the Army Corps.

A suspected ash dump was recently found by the Phoenixville Area School District near a 30-year-old incinerator on the property.

According to Lloyd Shell, director of environmental restoration of FUDS, the Army Corps made the inspection on June 29, 1988, at the request of the Phoenixville Area School District. District officials, who were looking at the land as a site for a new school, have since tested the site themselves. Based on the results of the test, the district decided to give the land back to the federal government.

FUDS are "formerly used defense sites." There about 7,000 FUDS slated for cleanup.

The report, called a "site inventory," lists objects and buildings located visually on the property by Army Corps inspectors. No soil or water testing was done.

Shell said the report took so long to be released because it had to pass through the Army Corps' legal and real estate departments for review. He said the Army Corps was in no rush because the site was not critical.

"As far as we know at the time we disposed of the property, it was not of a critical nature," Shell said.

The Army Corps gave portions of the property to the school district and Valley Forge Christian College in 1976. The district is in the process of returning the land.

The Army Corps does not have the authority to release the report, Shell said. That burden falls on the property owners.

District Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski said last week she would make the information available when she received it.

(Continued on Page 10)

VFCC President Wesley Smith could not be reached for comment.

The site inventory is similar to a preliminary assessment performed on all suspected toxic sites by the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA has yet to visit the former army hospital site.

Meanwhile, the quest for data on the army hospital continues.

Attempts by the school district to contact former hospital employees have prove fruitless, according to Trohoski.

Army Corps officials denied requests by The Evening Phoenix for hospital records saying that the records may have been destroyed.

The only other information available to describe what menace may be hidden beneath the soil of the former army hospital is a test of soil samples taken in October. A consultant for the school district tested the samples.

That report may not give a true picture of what is in the ground, according to one expert.

Steve Lester, toxicologist for the Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste, said the samples could have been diluted, making the site seem less dangerous.

Although the report did note abnormally high concentrations of lead and zinc levels of arsenic, cadmium and other contaminants usually found in incinerator ash did not exceed accepted levels.

According to the Lancaster Lab's report, results of analysis of samples taken at a variety of depths were reported together as a composite. Lester said composite sampling does not give an accurate picture of the danger. If a lot of lead was present in the top of the soil and a miniscule amount in the bottom, Lester said the two could average out to a level within standards. Lester said he would not be able to tell from a composite sample if there was more of a danger in surface contact with contaminated soil or possible leakage into groundwater.

Vroon begins probe

Rep. eyes cancer,
ex-hospital link

By LISA SCHEID
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — State Rep. Peter R. Vroon, R-157th, said this morning he is investigating the connection of five cases of Hodgkin's disease to the site of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital.

Vroon has already made preliminary contacts at the state and county health departments, saying he has not learned anything yet. "I expect to probe into this deeper today," Vroon said. He would not say with whom he has spoken.

"I can't divulge any of that. It's too preliminary at this point. These people have been just contacted," he said.

Vroon's investigation was initiated by Phoenixville resident Karen Johns, who he said knows one of the cancer victims.

Hodgkin's disease is marked by inflammatory enlargement of the lymph nodes, spleen, liver and kidneys, which mainly strikes males between the ages of 18 to 40.

Last week the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors learned that five area residents who lived near the former Valley Forge Army Hospital grounds have contracted Hodgkin's disease. Four are present or former South Evergreen Drive residents.

At least one supervisor, G. Edward Heit, was convinced by their stories that the incidents may be more than just coincidence. Heit said he planned to call the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga. He asked the residents to come to this week's

(Continued from Page 1)

board meeting with more information.

Vroon said he looking into the connection of cancer cases to a recent discovery of a high concentration of toxic chemicals on a portion of the former hospital site now owned by the Phoenixville Area School District.

District Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski reported in January that about 120 square feet of a 35-acre tract owned by the district was contaminated with heavy metals.

Lancaster Labs, a consultant hired by the district, reported levels of hazardous metals, in-

cludings lead and zinc, were abnormally high in the area bounded by Township Line and East Seven Stars roads.

The toxins came from X-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator. The ashes in the samples collected by Lancaster Labs contained the chemicals.

The army hospital operated for over 30 years, treating servicemen wounded in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It closed in 1974.

Most of the site, located in Charlestown and Schuylkill townships, is occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College, but a portion of the property was sold by the federal government to the school district.

(Continued on Page 3)

ORIGINAL
(Red)

Residents link cancer to army hospital grounds

By KONRAD SUROWIEC
Evening Phoenix Staff

SCHUYLKILL — Five area residents who have Hodgkin's disease have more than cancer in common — they are all neighbors of the former Valley Forge Army Hospital.

And that's no coincidence, they say.

Their stories about battling with the cancer convinced at least one member of the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors last night to agree to contact the federal Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., about testing soil at the former hospital site for toxins.

Hodgkin's disease is marked by inflammatory enlargement of the lymph nodes, spleen, liver and

kidneys, which mainly strikes males between the ages of 18 to 40.

Four of the local residents who either have the disease or are in remission are current or former residents of South Evergreen Drive, which borders the former hospital.

Michael K. Fulmer Jr., 21, of Galicia Drive in Bevans Orchard, a development that borders the Valley Forge Christian College, was first diagnosed with the disease three years ago. He underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments to remove the cancer, but it was discovered a second time.

Michael K. Fulmer Sr. said his son first underwent treatment at Lankenau Hospital, but he's now being treated at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in northeast Philadelphia.

"My son has lung damage from radiation," Fulmer said. "It (the cancer) normally relapses once."

"I found out I had the disease three months ago," said Jeff Kurtz, 20. "I want to know what's going on here."

Kurtz, an Auburn University student whose home is on North Forge Mountain Drive, lived on South Evergreen Drive from 1973 to 1981.

Frank Robinson, 44, of South Evergreen Drive, is undergoing radiation treatment for the disease. Two other former South Evergreen Drive residents who previously underwent treatments for the disease are Bob Dyer, 35, and Dennis Andrews, 27.

A high concentration of toxic chemicals has already been discovered on a nearby portion of the

land owned by the Phoenixville Area School District, which was once the site of the hospital.

The army hospital operated there for over 30 years, treating servicemen wounded in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It closed in 1974. Most of the site, located in Charlestown and Schuylkill townships, is occupied by the Valley Forge Christian College, but a portion of the property was sold by the federal government to the school district.

District Superintendent Carolyn Trohoski reported in January that the land owned by the district was contaminated with heavy metals.

Lancaster Labs, a consultant hired by the district,

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

reported levels of hazardous metals, including lead and zinc, were abnormally high in a depressed 120 square-foot area of a 35-acre tract bounded by Township Line and East Seven Stars roads.

The toxins came from X-ray remains burned in the hospital's incinerator. The ashes in the samples collected by Lancaster Labs contained the chemicals.

"We have a deep concern about the toxic waste found in the hospital," said James Kurtz, Jeff's father. "Four people came down with it in six families (in

adjacent homes on South Evergreen Drive.) What else did they bury down there?"

"The school board must have some idea something is wrong there," said Frank Robinson. "My daughter plays lacrosse out there and I don't feel real confident with that."

Supervisor G. Edward Heit told the residents to bring any other pertinent information to the board at next Wednesday's 7:30 p.m. meeting because the board lacked a quorum to conduct business last night.

"As far as I'm concerned, one of us will contact the Disease Control Center," Heit said.